



since 2004

## MISSION

The Agape Service Project fosters service, community, and prayer as participants encounter Christ and uphold the dignity of our migrant brothers and sisters.





## GOALS

- To serve the migrant community of Whatcom County by providing food, clothing, and community support with the ultimate goal of building personal relationships with those we serve
- To teach participants about Catholic social justice, especially in response to issues affecting the migrant community
- To inspire and encourage participants to continue answering the call to service throughout their lives
- To create a space where participants can grow in their faith and meet Jesus through prayer, people, and service
- To do everything with agape love

[www.unnewman.com/agape](http://www.unnewman.com/agape)

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Welcome to Agape 2020! We are truly excited for you to be joining us in our mission: fostering service, community, and prayer as participants encounter Christ and uphold the dignity of our migrant brothers and sisters. Our hope is that through service, participants will understand Christ's presence in every person they meet, and through this recognition, positively impact the migrant farm worker community.

We are excited and blessed to partner with you this sixteenth year of Agape. We hope you find this packet helpful as you prepare for the summer. Please be in contact with your group leaders *first* if you have any questions. Thank you!

In Christ's Love,

Kelsey Harrington  
Agape Service Project, Director

In this packet you will find:

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Please also fill out the following forms provided by the Group Leader:

- **Parent/Guardian Consent Form and Liability Waiver**
- **Code of Behavior and Norms for Youth Participants**

## Overall Agape Information

**Arrival Time:** Your group will arrive **by 6:00pm** to Bellingham, after eating dinner. When you arrive, you will unpack your gear and donations. There will be a snack provided Sunday night.

**Packing:** Please pack lightly. Everyone will be living in community for a week and sharing a room with others.

**Clothing:** Be modest in your attire. ***Tank tops have a two-finger width rule, shorts must be no shorter than your fingertips, no exposed midriffs, and no saggy pants.*** Please remember we are representing our parishes and the Catholic Church wherever we go to the people we encounter.

**Money:** There will be an opportunity to buy an Agape Sweatshirt (for \$30) or Agape sticker (for \$2), but other than that you do not need any money this week. All of your meals and snacks are provided.

**Free time:** There are designated free times during the service week. When there is free time, youth must remain with the group. Youth may **not** leave the facility to go beyond the parish premises unless they are in the company of a chaperone. We ask that you check in with the Program Directors and your adult leaders before leaving to make sure there is time do so.

**Cell Phones/Music:** No cell phones, mp3, or iPods. There will be opportunities for music throughout the week. Please be aware that music shared *must be appropriate* for a Church retreat/service experience.

**Chores:** Small Groups will be assigned chores each day, such as meal preparation, kitchen duty, straightening the parish hall, bathrooms, etc. Each small group with their adult leader will be responsible for the various tasks.

**Food:** In keeping with the spirit of Agape, the meals and lodging are simple. This is to help us grow in solidarity and bring us closer to those we are serving.

- All food for meals is provided. Each group will share in the responsibility of cooking and serving meals in community. The kitchen is not to be used by youth outside of meal times, unless there are special dietary reasons. Please do not bring any snacks.
- *Please notify your group leader in advance of any special dietary needs, some may require the participant with special dietary needs to supplement their daily meals with food from home.*

**Lodging:** Groups will stay at Sacred Heart Parish in Bellingham. Participants will stay in the Parish Hall & Religious Education Classrooms. Groups will sleep in separate rooms according to gender, and will be sleeping on the floor. Participants are encouraged to bring a sleeping mat. Showers will take place on two days at a local swimming pool and YMCA.

**Medications:** All medications, whether prescription or over the counter, will need to be bagged and labeled with the participant's name and instructions for dispensing. Follow your group leaders rules regarding medications. Ensure that your parents complete the medication portion of the Parent/Guardian Consent Form and Liability Waiver.

**Departure:** Plan to depart Bellingham by 11am on Friday of your service week.

# Agape Expectations for the Week

*These are some basic expectations that we ask everyone to follow and keep in mind during our week of service. We will have a great week if we all strive to apply these while we live in community and serve!*

- **Be Respectful:** To everyone in your group, adult leaders, Agape staff, Sacred Heart staff & facility, the farm workers and camps.
- **Think About Others and Live in Community:** We are working, living, and eating in community this week. Challenge yourself to think about the needs of others before yourself. Get to know new people! Clean up after yourselves and do your chores. Groups can hang out in the parish hall. There are designated sleeping rooms and bathrooms by gender so please do not go into each other's spaces. Display affection appropriately for a Catholic service project.
- **Keep Quiet Hours Quiet:** Keep the noise level to a minimum during office hours (8am-5pm) and quiet hours (10pm-7am).
- **Be Mindful of the Dress Code:** Be modest in your attire. Tank tops have a two-finger width rule, shorts must be no shorter than your fingertips, no exposed midriffs, and no sagging pants. Please remember we are representing our parishes and the Catholic Church wherever we go to the people we encounter.
- **Use the Buddy System:** When we are on service outings, you will need to stay in groups of three and have adult supervision.
- **Be Positive☺:** Have a positive attitude towards all activities, reflections, and experiences.
- **Serve the Lord and Have Fun!:** Do everything with sacrificial God-like love (Agape!).

## **Please do not bring:**

- Snacks—all food is shared and eaten as a community
- Cell phones or personal communication devices, iPods, mp3 players, etc. We are trying to serve Christ in each other, not in our electronics
- Illegal drugs, alcohol, fireworks, or weapons of any kind

# Agape Packing List

## For Sleeping:

- Sleeping bag
- Sleeping pad or air mattress (this is optional, but strongly recommended for comfort. Please twin size mattresses only)
- Pillow
- Ear plugs for sleeping (suggested)

## Personal Hygiene

- Towel/washcloth
- Toiletries (soap, shampoo, brush, deodorant, toothbrush, etc.)
- Baby/Body wipes (to substitute for days without showers)
- Sunscreen
- Small bag (like a drawstring backpack or reusable shopping bag, to carry shower/swim gear)
- Shower sandals (if desired)

## Clothing

- Jeans or other pants (2-3 pairs)
- T-shirts (tank tops must be **at least two-finger width wide**)
- Shorts (must be **at least fingertip length**)
- Tennis shoes (for playing games at the camp and being on your feet for extended periods)
- Underwear and Socks
- Sweatshirt/Jacket
- Pajamas
- Hat or visor
- Swimsuit
- Shoes for farm work (ex: tennis shoes that are ok getting dirty)

## Other

- Work Gloves (Optional)
- Water bottle (A MUST!)
- **ID Card** if 16+ or an adult for the showers
- Good Attitude and a Servant's Heart

Please remember to be modest in your attire. Tank tops have a two-finger width rule, shorts must be no shorter than your fingertips, no exposed midriffs, and no sagging pants. Please remember we are representing our parishes and the Catholic Church wherever we go to the people we encounter.

Please do not bring electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, etc.). No weapons, fireworks, or illegal substances.

**PLEASE PACK LIGHTLY!**