**Dating**

Our greatest joy in life, O God, is to love. We thank you for showing us through Jesus that loving a child, a friend, a dream, or a companion makes us more fully human, created in your image. As *N* stands ready to begin dating, help *her* to remember that *she* will be learning that love is sacred. May *she* bring to each new date hope for a true friendship. May *she* listen, and speak, and act with the greatest respect for *herself* and *her* companion. May *she* strive for a relationship that is truthful, patient, courageous, and kind. Above all, may love teach *her* to love you more and more as, through the Spirit’s care, *she* grows in the image of your holy child, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

From, *Changes: Prayers & Services Honoring Rites of Passage,* Church Publishing: 2007.