DATE FIVE
The Blueprint of Love

Begin the prayer with the following or similar words.

Leader: Let us quiet our minds and hearts and take a moment to
remind ourselves that we are in God's presence.

Pause

+ In the name of the Father . . .

All: **We thank you, O God for all the gifts**
you have given us this day.
We thank you especially
for the example of spousal love
Christ gives us in his love for the Church, his bride.
As we prepare to enjoy this time together
we ask you to guide us with your Word.

Leader: In the Gospel of John Jesus tells us that
he has given us a model we are to follow.
We are to do for one another what he has done for us.

Pause

Reader: A reading from the Gospel of John (Jn 13:2-5, 12-15)

So…he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a
towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a
basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the
towel around his waist.
So when he had washed their feet [and] put his garments back on and
reclined at table again, he said to them,
"Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher'
and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the
master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one
another's feet.

I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pause

Leader: O God, you love us so much
that you gave us your Son, Jesus,
who died and rose to save us.

Give us your grace to love our spouse
as Christ loves his bride, the Church.

Give us the courage
to welcome and accept our spouse in our life,
to always be present,
to be willing to sacrifice,
to forgive,
to comfort and help our spouse heal,
and to serve, as Jesus taught us to serve.

Pause

Leader: Together, let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us:
Our Father…