

# DATE NIGHT IN

*Celebrate your marriage at home with these Date Night ideas this Valentine's Day, which also happens to be World Marriage Sunday 2021!*

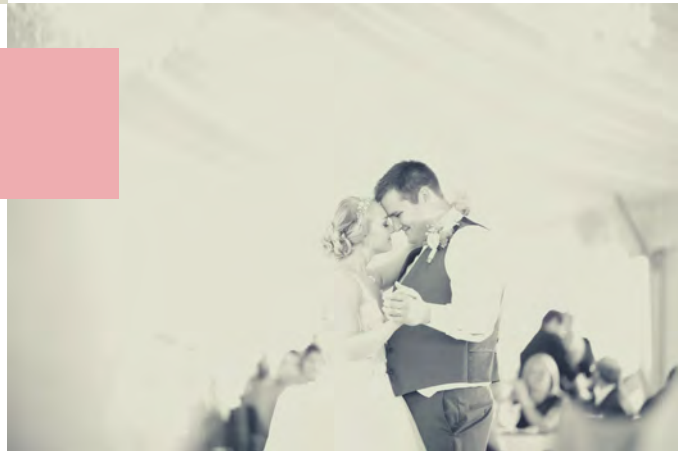


## DINNER

*Have a date night in. Get dressed up for dinner – look your best for your spouse! Order takeout from a favorite restaurant or try to recreate the meal that was served at your reception. Bonus: Get the kids involved by having them cook or serve as your waiters and waitresses for the night!*

## DANCING

*Did you have a first dance at your wedding? Recreate that moment by finding the song and dance together in your living room.*



## AND MORE!

*Add some dessert and fun to your night in by baking together the enclosed recipe and going on a scavenger hunt with the attached guide. End the night with prayer together (or with your family)!*



Brought to you by





# DATE NIGHT IN!



*Rediscover Your Spouse*

## EAT: SECRET KISS COOKIES



### Ingredients

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup finely chopped walnuts
- 54 milk chocolate kisses
- 1-1/3 cups confectioners' sugar, divided
- 2 tablespoons baking cocoa

\*adapted from <https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/secret-kiss-cookies/>

### Directions

1. In a large bowl, cream butter, sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy, 5-7 minutes. Gradually add flour and mix well. Fold in walnuts.
2. Refrigerate dough until firm, 2-3 hours. (*HINT: use this time for your date activity!*)
3. Preheat oven to 375°. Shape dough into 1-in. balls. Flatten balls and place a chocolate kiss in the center of each; fold dough around and over the kiss, completely covering it.
4. Place 2 in. apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake until set but not browned, 12 minutes. Cool 1 minute; remove from pans to wire racks.
5. Sift together 2/3 cup confectioners' sugar and cocoa. While cookies are still warm, roll half in cocoa mixture and half in remaining confectioners' sugar.
6. Cool completely. Store in an airtight container.

**Short on time?** Use store-bought sugar cookie dough. Slice into rounds and mold each around a chocolate kiss. Bake as above.

**Mix it up!** Try using different kinds of kisses, so each cookie is truly a surprise!



"Both husband and wife should try to renew their love day after day, and that is done through sacrifice, with smiles, and also with ingenuity."

- St. Josemaria Escriva

# PLAY: SCAVENGER HUNT



## **Directions**

1. *Set a timer for 20 minutes, and independently collect the items described below in a bag.*
2. *When the timer goes off, meet up, and share your finds! You might have your spouse guess the description that goes with each object.*
3. *Use the discussion questions to go deeper.*
4. *Enjoy your time together!*

## **Go Find It!**

- An object that reminds you of one of your favorite dates.
- An item that your spouse loses often or can't ever locate.
- An object that reminds you of your spouse's sense of humor or one of their quirks.
- A thing that your spouse can't live without.
- An item that represents the gift your spouse is to you.

## **Go deeper!**

- What makes your spouse an amazing date?
- What quirks do you most appreciate in your spouse?
- What have you learned about your spouse that has surprised you recently?
- What is one small way you can keep getting to know each other every day?



# PRAY: PRAYER OF A MARRIED COUPLE

Lord God, we acknowledge your greatness and our need for your grace in our marriage. We thank you now for the gift you have given us in each other, this opportunity to love and be loved completely. We accept this beautiful challenge and ask you to bless us. May our love encourage us to grow to be holier individuals, bringing out the best in each other. Following your example, Jesus, may we be quick to forgive, ready with a healing word or touch. Teach us to speak to each other with charity and honesty. Help us avoid the temptation to take each other for granted. Instead, remind us, day by day, to see each other as you see us. May we be as patient with each other as you are with us. May our love be generous, reaching out beyond ourselves to all we meet. We pray that they may meet you in us. Let our life together be a light of hope to those who fear that a total commitment is not possible today. Faith gives us courage, for we believe that the love that comes from you is freeing and life-giving. Lord, be a partner with us in our marriage; with your help it will be strong and enduring. We rejoice that you have brought us together. May we always be one in you. Amen.

— Prayer of a Married Couple, written by Lauri Przybysz