

Italian

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Italian nights can make a great get-together, whether for a Valentine's party, or just a great night of getting together with friends and family. Italy is known for its art, architecture, and its food course, so there is a rich culture to draw from when planning an Italian party!

Think about the possibilities of food alone—various pasta dishes and pizza are always a big hit when it comes to parties. They are simple to prepare and go a long way in feeding a lot of people.

Italian Party Theme Concept

- Originally posted January 14, 2002
- Updated January 18, 2022
- Originally titled, "A Night Under the Stars"

The event themes on the website can be used for showers, parties, women's ministry retreats and activities, or church functions. Each theme will have one or several possible spiritual applications. *I give you lots of info and ideas—You pick just a few to enhance your event. More ideas can be used for showers and parties, but less is always more for ministry events.*

(Some Valentine ones are thrown into the mix of titles for this theme.)

Theme Title Ideas

- A Hearty Meal with Friends
- A Night in Tuscany
- A Night Under the Stars
- A Heart for Christ
- A Plate of Happiness (Pasta Dinner)
- A Taste of Italy (Pasta & Pizza Bar)
- Abiding Love
- Amore
- An Evening in Italy
- Be My Valentine
- Calling All Sweethearts!
- Dinner & Drama (Play or Talent Night)
- Friends & Gelato
- Let the Good Times Roll (Bread & Roll Bar)
- The Fruit of the Spirit is Love (grape décor)
- God's Love Letter
- Grazie (Volunteer Appreciation)
- Italian Night/Supper
- Love...The Greatest Gift
- Love Conquers
- Love One Another
- Love with Purpose
- Love Runs Deep
- Pasta Party (or Dinner)
- Pizza Night
- Spaghetti Dinner
- Taste & See (Psalm 34:8)
- The Measure of Love
- Two Hearts
- The Power of Love

Spiritual & General Applications

- Focus on love and romance with an Italian focus.
- Focus on a Valentine's Day banquet.
- Focus on a church wide meal with Italian food.
- Focus on a party for friends and family with Italian food.

Theme Verse Suggestions

*O taste and see that the LORD is good:
blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
Psalm 34:8*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
Meekness, temperance: against such there is
no law. Galatians 5:22, 23*

Charity never faileth... I Corinthians 13:8

*And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these
three; but the greatest of these is charity. 1
Corinthians 13:13*

Devotional Starter & Workshop Ideas

- "Italian Night" Devotional/Article Ideas.
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/devotional-helps/italian-theme-devotional-ideas.pdf>
- All of my Valentine's devotionals can be found in the More Love Please Devotional Collection, which can be purchased on Amazon here.
<https://www.amazon.com/More-Love-Please-Collection-Devotions/dp/B09PP56YY3/>



Simple Decorating

- Red check napkins and tablecloths
- Italian flags
- Candles
- Roses
- Italian landmark art (coloring pages make great patterns)
- Simple Décor: Tray filled with vase and rose, candles, framed photo of Italian landmark, dried pasta, etc.

Icebreakers

For the Love of Pasta Wordsearch

<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/icebreakers/love-of-pasta-wordsearch.pdf>

Love Activity Sheets

- How Do I Love Thee (Choose someone you love to concentrate on why you love them.)
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/theme-helps/valentines/how-do-i-love-thee-list.pdf>
- How Do I Love Thee? Jesus
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/book-launch/More-Love-Please/how-do-I-love-thee-sheet.pdf>

Music

- *Yes, Jesus Loves Me*
- *The Love of God* (Frederick Martin Lehman)

Favor Ideas

- After dinner mints
- Apron
- Cheese slicer
- Dishtowel
- Homemade tomato/spaghetti sauce

- Mini Italian flags
- Olive Oil holder
- Oven mitt
- Package of pasta (tied up with ribbon)
- Pasta measuring tool
- Pasta spoon
- Pasta strainer
- Personal journal
- Pizza cutter
- Travel items (toothbrush cover, mini plastic bottles, etc.)
- Travel journal

Door Prize Ideas

- Pizza cutter
- Pizza stone
- Pasta roller
- Set of dishtowels
- Set of oven mitts
- French rolling pin (for homemade pasta)
- Pizza board
- Pizza spatula/paddle
- Noodle slicer
- Tomato keeper
- Set of pasta bowls
- Pasta drying rack (for homemade pasta)
- Apron
- Specialty tomato sauce
- Cheese slicer
- Ravioli maker (cutter)
- Pasta Gift Basket: Various pasta packages, various tomato sauces, olive oil, jar of olives, etc.

Just for Fun

Group Projects

- Make homemade pasta together.
- Make homemade tomato sauce together.
- Make a Valentine's Day craft project together, such as heart wreaths, etc.

Food & Serving

- Aged cheeses and crackers
- Bread & Roll Bar (Various breads, rolls, and flavored butters, honey, etc.)
- Italian Food Bar (Various pastas, pizza, etc.)
- Fruit (grapes, etc.)
- Gelato for dessert
- Pasta
- Pizza
- Sweet and spicy olives
- Various breads with texture

Photo Source

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<https://unsplash.com/photos/tEVisOXz26Y>

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