

# Celebrating Holy Week



## Jesus Prays in the Garden, by Sandra Brese Rice

After Jesus had His last special meal with His disciples, He took them to a garden to pray. The *Garden of Gethsemane* was in a place called the *Mount of Olives*, a hilltop where olive trees grew.

*He said, "Father, if You are willing, take this cup of suffering away from Me.  
But do what You want, not what I want."* -Luke 22:42 NIRV

On the night Jesus was arrested, He chose to spend time praying to His Father instead of running away and hiding. Jesus knew the soldiers were coming to arrest Him. Jesus knew the religious leaders of the time wanted to keep Him from what He was doing and saying. Jesus knew there were plans to put Him to death; yet knowing all these things, Jesus prayed. He did not rise up against the enemy; He followed God's plan.

Reflecting upon this time of Jesus' life can lead us to reflect upon our own lives. We have all met the crossroads of life and have had to face a decision.

Sometimes we run; sometimes we let God lead us.

Sometimes we know we're doing the right thing; sometimes we know we're not.  
Sometimes we sin, but we are always forgiven — because of Jesus.

**The example Jesus set for us during Holy Week is... in all things, we should pray.**

God is always with us; He is always listening. God knows the plan for our lives. We need to trust God and talk to Him. We need to open our hearts and minds so we can hear God.

### PRAYER

Dear God our Father,  
We often face decisions in our lives that are difficult and cause us to worry. Help us turn to You for guidance and strength. Help us trust You will be with us and show us Your plan.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

