

## January: The Last Supper

Opening Prayer: Lord, we ask that you open our hearts to hearing your message as we sit around the table as Jesus did with his apostles. May we hear the message you intend for each of us individually as well as within our faith group. Remind us of your Sacrifice each time we come together at your table each weekend and know that we are grateful. We ask this thru Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Time Period Covered: Preparations for the Passover—The Last or Lord's Supper and Peter's Denial  
Where we are on the journey: We have lived as disciples of Jesus Christ. Now we will be tested as followers...or betrayers.  
Opening Question: How is the Last Supper significant to the Catholic Faith and Tradition?

### Scripture Analysis

Matthew 26:1-18 Preparations for the Passover.

Why is it important that Matthew has Jesus making preparations for the Passover? Why couldn't one of the apostles do that?

Matthew 26:20-25 The Betrayer

The apostles refer to Jesus as "Lord." What does it mean when Judas refers to Jesus as "Rabbi" instead of "Lord"?

Why do you think Judas did this? Do you think he was thinking clearly or could he have been nervous about or regretting his decision to take the silver coins?

Jesus' final meal interprets his death.

Matthew 26:26-30 The Lord's Supper

Mark 14:22-26 The Lord's Supper

Matthew 26:31-35 Peter's Denial Foretold

Mark 14:27-31 Peter's Denial Foretold

Can you relate to Peter in these passages? Have you ever experienced a time when you felt really close to God...then you were around some of your friends and an unpopular "Holy Roller" said something...a profound Truth, but you just rolled your eyes or made fun of the person?

Luke includes a couple of extra details of instruction for his apostles:

Luke 22:24-30 The Role of the Disciples

Luke 22:35-38 Instructions for the Time of Crisis

John, believed to be the youngest apostle and only Gospel writers who had actually spent time with Jesus is written differently from the synoptic Gospels.

John 13:1-20 The Washing of the Disciples' Feet

John 13:34-35 The New Commandment

John 14 Last Supper Discourses ... doesn't include Jesus breaking bread

**February: Agony in the Garden and Capture**

Opening Prayer: Lord, we ask that you open our hearts. May we hear the message you intend for each of us individually as well as within our faith group. Help us to be aware of the times we ignore you...when you call us to show love and compassion to those who are hurting or scared. We ask this thru Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Time Period Covered: After the Last Supper when Jesus prays in the garden...and his capture.

Opening Question: Jesus prays to His Father in the garden for answers. What do you do when seeking advice or courage?

**Scripture Analysis**

Find the similarities and differences in the Synoptic Gospels:

Matthew 26:36-56

Mark 14:32-52

Luke 22:39-53

How does John's account differ?

John 18:1-11

