

GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

The Garden of Gethsemane (at the foot of the Mount of Olives) is now a flowering garden where several ancient gnarled olive trees still bear fruit. The name is derived from the Hebrew words "Gat Sgemanim," meaning "olive press."

The olive trees here are the oldest in Israel. It was here that Jesus loved to come and pray. It was here that He endured the anguish and intense anxiety of foreseeing the cross and yet yielded to His Father's will in perfect submission (Luke 22:39).

Judas performed his act of betrayal in this garden and Peter cut off the ear of the Roman soldier to defend Jesus. Adjacent to the Garden is the Church of All Nations, housing the very rock by which Jesus prayed. The church was so named because 16 nations contributed to its construction.

