

1st Week: **PREPARE** the way!

STOP at the beginning of the journey. PREPARE THE WAY!

At the beginning of any journey it is necessary to study the route, see where to stay, see what we have and how we foresee the dangers: We need to STOP.

Jesus leads us to the desert. There, He helps us to find the essence of life! Let us STOP in order to discover the Love of the Father, to look at our lives and let the desire to live together with our God arise in our hearts. Only He will give us the true JOY of living. Only He will teach us to live with what is necessary and to be more in solidarity with others.

Gospel: Mc.1, 12-15

At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert, and he **remained** in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

Pope Francis (Message for Lent 2015):

Lent is a time of renewal for the whole Church, for each communities and every believer. Above all it is a “time of grace” (2 Cor 6:2). God does not ask of us anything that he himself has not first given us. “We love because he first has loved us” (1 Jn4:19). He is not aloof from us. Each one of us has a place in his heart. He knows us by name, he cares for us and he seeks us out **whenever we turn away from Him**. He is interested in each of us; his love does not allow him to be indifferent to what happens to us.

Saint Raphaela Mary:

“I see God very big and myself very small, and I rejoice because this is to see what God is and what I am. When I see my littleness, I am in my center, because I see what God does in me and in my things, which is what I want.”

We ask for the grace to know how to **STOP** before God, who cares for us.

- ✓ What do we need to **STOP** in our lives?
- ✓ We thank God for His Love...

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus,
Today we come to tell you that we do not want to live far from You,
that we feel sorry for always being in a hurry, with no time for You,
that we regret not fully believing and trusting in Your Word
which is Good News and joy for our hearts ...

Thank you for your Love, for taking care of us, because we are not indifferent to You.

Help us, Lord Jesus, to make this Lent a time to stop and change our lives.
We want to be, Lord Jesus, completely yours!

