

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

GOSPEL: LK. 4:1-2

Jesus left...

*Filled with the Spirit,
Jesus left the Jordan and
was led by the Spirit into
the desert for forty days,
to be tempted by the devil.
He ate nothing during those days,
and when they were over
he was hungry.*

The Spirit guides me,

like he guided Jesus in the desert.
When we are tempted, when it seems
as if everything is going against us,
when God seems far away, blissfully busy in the heavens,
the Spirit guides us as he did Jesus.
He walks alongside us through our deserts
and trials and never abandons us.
It is the Spirit who overcomes in us the malign voice
that wants to make us doubt the love,
help and closeness of God.
There are no situations,
however painful or absurd they may be,
in which God is absent.
Our entire history, both personal and cosmic,
is guided by the Spirit of love.

From the book *Il Vangelo si fa strada*
by Roberta Vinerba, FSP Editions

*Always
walk
beside me,*

*Lord Jesus.
My life is in your hands.
You are watching over me.
I know that your merciful love
accompanies me at all times
on the path of life,
whether it be smooth or rocky,
and even when there seems to be no path at all.
Make me docile to the guidance of your Spirit.
Amen.*