

## Day 1 - Do not be afraid!

*Light a candle as a sign that in your home lives a pilgrim of Fatima by the heart. Our Lady watches over your way.*

**Prayer of the Angel of Peace:** My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You. I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You.

- Open up your heart to God and ask Him: what do you want of me? **“Do not be afraid”** says the mother of the one who pulled out the roots of fear when he was buried dead in the womb of the earth, and resuscitated alive in the dawn of the garden on that first Easter.
- **“Do not be afraid”** said the Lady, and Lucia, hearing Her say she was from Heaven, that is, coming from God, immediately asked the question of questions, the most crucial of the questionings of people before God: **“What do you want of me, oh God?”** Only when a heart released from fear by the light of Easter opens to His will, can God enter one’s story. If you really want to be a pilgrim by the heart, as Fatima calls to you, let this questioning open your heart. Doing it opens everything.
- This is the first step, the decisive step, because it is this questioning that transforms the believer into a pilgrim. If you make this questioning, an infinite path of pilgrimage shall open before you, not settling in the realization of what you see and know already. Rather, by questioning you will be able to know what God wants from you and may accomplish what He tells you. To be a pilgrim is to move in life, get unsettled, to progress. Pilgrimage is a change of life and therefore only pilgrimage by the heart is a real pilgrimage. To dare this degree of freedom towards yourself, to dare responding in an act of full detachment, it is necessary for you to embrace in the secret of your pilgrim heart the words of the Lady to the little shepherds: **“Do not be afraid.”**

*My God, You inhabit the innermost of my heart and You call me to become a pilgrim by the heart and to meet You there. I listen to the Mother of Your Son telling me: do not be afraid! To live as a pilgrim by the heart I want to vanquish my fear, I have so many fears. Listen to my voice and release me from fear. Release me so that, free, I can ask you just like Lucia: what do you want of me? I want to open up my freedom to your will and break through, by my freedom opened up to your will, a path in which you can come to the history of the world, to offer grace and mercy, redemption of your children’s freedom in the light of Easter. I am a pilgrim by the heart, lead me wherever You want, without fear. I want to go on a pilgrimage by the heart into Your mother’s heart, mother of mine, Our Lady of Fatima. In Her heart, You will be waiting for my heart. And today, away from the Little Chapel in Fatima, I make myself a pilgrim by the heart: I shall follow my heart and in our Mother’s immaculate heart I shall listen to the merciful beating of Your heart. Amen.*

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

*Mother of Heaven, be attentive to the supplications of a world facing tribulation. Answer the cry of the poor and the sick, give comfort and hope to all those who suffer, give strength and compassion to all those who work and care for those who are suffering. Bring peace to the world. In your immaculate heart, be for all your children a refuge and a way to God. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us. Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto, pray for us.*