



### Healing Service

Friday, February 24, 6:00 pm.  
Holy Family Church, **Lewiston**

### Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, February 4, from 12.00 m to 6:00 pm.  
Sacred Heart/St. Dominic Chapel, **Portland**

### Marriage Vows Renewal

For couples who have received the sacrament of marriage.  
Sunday, February 26, during Mass, 1:00 pm., Sacred Heart Church, **Portland**  
For more information: (207) 653-5609 José Pérez

### XXXI World Day of the Sick

On February 11, feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, St. John Paul II, in 1992, instituted the day The World Day of the Sick. Pope Francis' affection and concern for the sick has been a clear reality since his arrival at the Chair of Peter.  
*"Disease is part of our human experience. But if one lives in isolation and abandonment, if it is not accompanied by care and compassion, it can become inhuman. When we walk together, it is normal for someone to feel bad, to have to stop due to fatigue or some mishap. It is there, in those moments, when we can see how we are walking: Whether we really walk together, or whether we are going the same way, but each one does it on his own, watching over his own interests and letting others "manage".*  
For this reason, on this XXXI World Day of the Sick, in the midst of the Synod, I invite you to reflect on the fact that it is precisely through the experience of frailty and sickness that we can learn to walk together in the style of God, who is closeness, compassion and tenderness.".....  
(Message of the Holy Father Francis for the 31st World Day of the Sick - 2023)



### Ash Wednesday

With Ash Wednesday we begin the season of Lent. The rite of the imposition of ashes inaugurates this period of forty days that the Church offers us to prepare ourselves and to live fully the mysteries of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. After the Gospel and the homily, ashes are blessed and imposed. The ash is extracted from the burning of the palms of Palm Sunday of the previous year, and its imposition reminds us that we are from dust and that we must return to dust. In the second formula we are called to repent and believe in the gospel.

### Spanish Masses

#### Augusta

Every Saturday, 5:30 pm.  
St. Monica Chapel - 5 Kendall St.

#### Brewer

Every Sunday, 8:00 am.  
St. Teresa Church - 425 South Main St.

#### Cherryfield

1st Sunday of the month, 1:00 pm.  
St. Michael Church - 51 Elm St

#### Lewiston

Every Saturday, 6:00 pm. – ( Live- Stream)  
Chapel Riviere – Holy Cross Church  
1080 Lisbon St.

#### Pittsfield

1st and 3rd Friday of the month, 12:00 m.  
St. Agnes Church - 238 Detroit Street

#### Portland

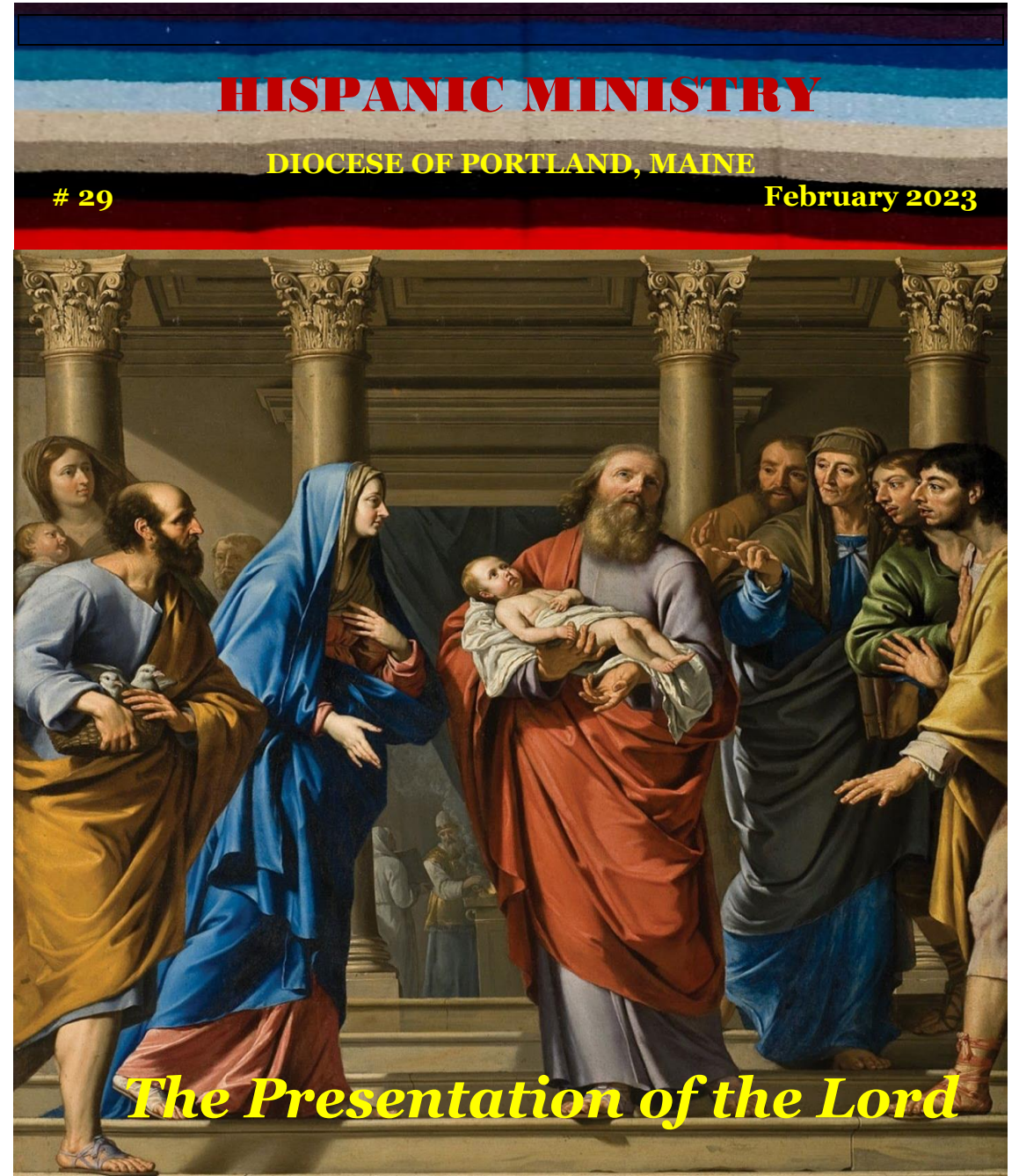
Every Sunday, 1:00 pm.  
Sacred Heart Church - 65 Mellen Street

#### Sanford

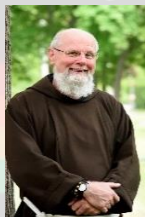
2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, 5:00 pm,  
Holy Family Church - 66 North Ave.

#### Skowhegan

Sundays to be noted, 9:30 am  
Conference Room  
Kyes Motel - 137 W Front St.



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**(Sacred Heart Church)**

Spanish  
Mass,  
Sunday,  
January  
21st.  
Skowhegan.



### Sunday Readings February 2023

#### Sunday 2/5/2023— Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10  
Psalm 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5  
Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

#### Sunday 2/12/2023— Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20  
Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10  
Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

#### Sunday 2/19/2023— Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18  
Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23  
Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

#### Sunday 2/26/2023— First Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7  
Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17  
Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19  
Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11



### Presentation of the Lord February 2

40 days after his birth, following the law of Moses, Jesus was presented in the Temple, at the same time that his Mother performed the ceremony of her purification. It is therefore a feast of both the Lord and his Mother. The Church gives greater prominence to the offer that Mary

and Joseph make of Jesus. They recognize that this child is God's property and salvation for all peoples. The prophetic presence of Simeon and Anne is an example of life consecrated to God and of the proclamation of the mystery of salvation.

The blessing of the candles is a symbol of the light of Christ. To light these candles at certain particular moments of life must be interpreted as symbolically standing before the light of Christ, which dispels the darkness of sin and death.

### Virgin of Candelaria February 2

Marian devotion that has its origin in Tenerife, Spain. Its etymology derives from candlestick or candle, which refers to light: the holy light that leads to the right path and redemption and enlivens faith in God. Her devotion is deeply rooted in other parts of Spain, and in countries such as Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and others.



### Our Lady of Lourdes February 11

Marian invocation that refers to the 18 apparitions that occurred in Lourdes, France, and that began on February 11, 1858, when 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous experienced the encounter with our Mother and that would seal her whole life.



occurred.

The apparitions were characterized by the sobriety of Our Lady's words and by the appearance of a fountain of water that sprouted unexpectedly next to the place of the apparitions and where many miracles have

## LENT



**Lent is the liturgical time of conversion,**

which marks the Church to prepare us for the great feast of Easter. It is time to repent of our sins and to change some of us to be better and to live closer to Christ.

**Lent lasts 40 days; it begins on Ash Wednesday and ends before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.** Throughout this time, especially in the Sunday liturgy, we make an effort to regain the rhythm and style of true believers who must live as children of God.

The liturgical color of this time is purple which means mourning and penance. **It is a time of reflection, of penance, of spiritual conversion; time of preparation for the Paschal Mystery.**

In Lent, Christ invites us to change our lives. The church invites us to live lent as a path to Jesus Christ, listening to the word of God, praying, sharing with others and doing good deeds. It invites us to live a series of Christian attitudes that help us to look more like Jesus Christ, because by action of our sin, we move away more from God.

**Lent is therefore the time of forgiveness and fraternal reconciliation.** Every day, throughout our lives, we must throw from our hearts the hatred, the rancor, the envy, the jealousy that opposes our love for God and the brothers. In Lent, we learn to know and appreciate the Cross of Jesus. With this we also learn to take our cross with joy to reach the glory of the resurrection.