

The Saint in Georgia, USA

From Friday, February 22 to Sunday, March 3, two first-class relics will travel from the Basilica of Saint Anthony in Padua, Italy, to the Diocese of Savannah in the state of Georgia, USA. One of the relics is the Saint's Floating Rib, which was venerated by both the then-Archbishop of Buenos Aires Jorge María Bergoglio (now Pope Francis) in the Cathedral of Buenos Aires in the year 2000, and by Sister Lucia of Fatima in her convent at Coimbra, Portugal, in 1995, the 800th anniversary of St. Anthony's birth. The relics will be brought by Friar Bortolini Maistrello, OFM Conv.

The Bishop of Savannah, Gregory Hartmayer, OFM Conv., has informed us that "Our diocese is

the largest east of the Mississippi River. We have 38,000 square miles." This relic visit will therefore be an "on the road" tour as the relics will visit churches in each of the seven diocesan deaneries: Albany, Augusta, Columbus, Macon, Savannah, Statesboro, and Valdosta/Brunswick.

The tour visits may include the following parishes: Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Savannah; Resurrection of Our Lord in Savannah; St. Peter Claver in Macon; St Joseph in Macon; St Anne in Columbus; Holy Family in Columbus; St Teresa of Avila in Grovetown; Most Holy Trinity in Augusta; St Mary on the Hill Augusta; St Matthew in Statesboro; St John the Evangelist in Valdosta; St Francis Xavier



in Brunswick; St Teresa in Albany; and St Joseph in Macon.

The tour will take place one week before the start of Lent, which begins on March 6. The veneration of the holy relics is spiritual preparation for a deep and meaningful Lent-

en journey towards Christ. Please visit our website (www.saintanthonyofpadua.net) for the updated list of scheduled parishes, or contact our organizer in the USA, Tom Muscatello, by phone at 914.263.8841 or via email at anthonia-nassociation@gmail.com