

(Located in the northeast region of Brazil, the diocese of Juazeiro faces numerous socio-economic and pastoral issues. Its Assumptionist bishop, Most Rev. José Geraldo da Cruz, paints a realistic picture of the situation for us and demonstrates his determination for the future. This article first appeared in the April/May/June 2013 issue of the Assumptionist magazine, *L'Assomption et ses oeuvres*.)

The diocese of Juazeiro is split in two by the São Francisco River in the northeast state of Bahia in the heart of *caatinga** country. It is divided into nine townships covering 60,000 square kilometers (about 23,000 square miles). It has about 500,000 inhabitants. There are only 14 parishes, six of which are in the city of Juazeiro (pop. 260,000).


Northeast Brazil
São Luís
Ilha dos Poldros
Lençóis Maranhenses
Fortaleza
Fernando de Noronha
Sete Cidades N.P.
Ceará
Rio Grande do Norte
Maranhão
Teresina
Natal
Juazeiro do Norte
João Pessoa
Paraíba
Serra de Capivara N.P.
Recife
Piauí
Pernambuco
Maceió
Alagoas
Sergipe
North
Bahia
Chapada Diamantina N.P.
Salvador
Central West
South-east
Brasilia
Abrolhos
200 Kilometers
200 Miles
N







