

## [Opinion](#)

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September 16, 2019

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The upcoming Synod of Bishops for the Amazon touches on major concerns of Pope Francis: the environment, indigenous peoples, and on-the-ground pastoral care. And the synod has wider implications beyond the region in focus, says theologian Richard Gaillardetz: [Expect North American church to learn from pan-Amazonian synod.](#)

At the Reservoir Hill House of Peace in Baltimore, Sr. Helene Cooke has encountered [a pioneer plan for religious life](#), a new way of experiencing Christian community and serving a wounded world.

Amy Morris-Young and family have had a tumultuous summer, but she sees good reasons for [resisting the pity party](#) she can sometimes feel like throwing herself.

It's about more than electors in a conclave. With the [new cardinals, the men are the message](#), Jesuit Fr. Tom Reese explains in his analysis of Francis' most recent choices.

ICYMI: The divestment tactic for combating climate change hit a milestone last week — helped along by significant participation from faith groups, whose [pledges push global fossil fuel divestments over \\$11 trillion.](#)

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