

by Mick Forgey

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### **Amazon synod organizers defend focus on disputed issues, cite region's**

**needs**: Next month's Synod of Bishops for the Amazon has faced a barrage of preliminary criticism. NCR Vatican correspondent Joshua J. McElwee conducted interviews with the synod's organizers, who defend the event and the first-of-its-kind preparation work behind it.

### **List of Amazon synod participants includes Boston's O'Malley, San Diego's**

**McElroy**: Over the weekend, the Vatican released the full list of participants, auditors and collaborators for the synod. According to the list, none of the women participants have been included as voting members.

### **Talitha Kum marks 10th anniversary, helped 15,500 trafficked persons in**

**2018**: GSR staff writer Soli Salgado reports from the first general assembly of Talitha Kum, the international anti-trafficking network of religious, taking place through Sept. 27 in Rome. The gathering marks 10 years of fighting trafficking throughout the world.

"Children, pregnant people and the elderly are the most at risk from extreme weather and rising heat. But the impact of the climate crisis — for patients, doctors and researchers — is already being felt across every specialty of medicine, with worse feared to come": **'Like a sunburn on your lungs': How does the climate crisis impact health?**

"The entire future of the global Catholic Church depends on women," says Kerry Robinson, founding executive director and global ambassador for the Washington, D.C.-based Leadership Roundtable. Robinson is one of the speakers for the upcoming at the second Women of the Church conference. National correspondent Heidi Schlumpf has the story: [\*\*'It's our church, too': Conference to focus on need for women's leadership.\*\*](#)

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