

## [Opinion](#)

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NCR correspondents reported on Pope Francis' response to the Amazon synod, his apostolic exhortation titled *Querida Amazonia* ("Beloved Amazon").

**[Francis declines to answer Amazon synod's requests for married priests, women ministers](#)**: Vatican correspondent Joshua J. McElwee covers the document, noting that the pope didn't respond to the Amazonian bishops' request "to allow for the priestly ordination of married men in their territories in order to address a severe lack of ministers."

**[In 'Querida Amazonia,' Francis defends vital ecosystem with stern indictment of its defilers](#)**: "Injustice and crime." Brian Roewe, NCR staff writer, reports on Francis' denouncement of "the unrestrained development in the Amazon that he says destroys one of the Earth's critical ecosystems and disenfranchises its indigenous peoples."

**[Disappointment, outrage over papal document on the Amazon](#)**: Many were hoping that Francis' document would present a first step towards the aforementioned married priests and women ministers. National correspondent Heidi Schlumpf spoke to people who were disappointed with *Querida Amazonia*, among them women who were outraged at Francis' language.

Our coverage continues today, as NCR's Michael Sean Winters weighs in on the document: [\*\*'Querida Amazonia' shows how Francis is looking for deeper change.\*\*](#)

From Global Sisters Report, [\*\*Sisters of Medical Missionaries of Mary provide free surgery to fistula patients:\*\*](#) In Nigeria, many women, especially those in rural areas, have suffered with untreated fistula. The Medical Missionaries of Mary run a fistula and birth injury hospital that treats hundreds each year and provides reconstructive operations at no cost.

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