News





Pope Francis named three delegate presidents for the Oct. 6-27 Synod of Bishops for the Amazon. Pictured in a combination photo: Cardinals Baltazar Porras Cardozo, 74, of Merida, Venezuela; Pedro Barreto Jimeno, 75, of Huancayo, Peru; and Joao Braz de Aviz, 72, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. (CNS photo/Paul Haring/Tyler Orsburn)

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The Vatican announced the appointments Sept. 7.

Though Francis, as pontiff, is president of the synod, the three cardinals will take turns presiding over the synod's daily sessions. The delegate presidents are also responsible for guiding the work of the synod and assigning special tasks to certain members, when necessary.

The special assembly on the Pan-Amazonian region will discuss the theme, "New Paths for the Church and for an Integral Ecology."

The main objectives, the pope has said, are to find new ways for the evangelization of the people in the region, especially the indigenous, to respond to situations of injustice in the region and to look at "the cause of the crisis of the Amazonian forest, lung of fundamental importance for our planet."

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