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The Copy Desk Daily highlights recommended news and opinion articles that have crossed the copy editors' desks on their way to you.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo [criticized a number of global governments](#) for persecuting religious minorities Oct. 2, speaking at a Vatican event as he struggles to deal with the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump.

The Amazon synod will open next Sunday, Oct. 6, with Mass in St. Peter's Square. Like everything else in this pontificate, [says columnist Michael Sean Winters](#), the synod is surrounded in controversy, not because it needs to be so, but because the professional haters of Pope Francis now insist that everything he does or says is wrong or evil or heretical.

[More: "The decolonial and intercultural hopes of the pan-Amazon synod"](#) by columnist Dan P. Horan, Franciscan friar.

Aida Sansor and Maria Teresa Pacheco have traveled the Eastern Coachella Valley area, seeking to [connect with the indigenous Purépecha community](#). Sansor and Pacheco are with Missionary Guadalupanas of the Holy Spirit, a nonprofit corporation of Catholic women based in Mexico City.

A follow up to Pope Francis' friendly meeting with Jesuit Fr. James Martin. [NCR Editorial Staff says](#) it may signal a new attitude in the church regarding the LGBTQ community, but there are as many questions as answers.

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