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(NCR photo/Teresa Malcolm)

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There has been a certain amount of messiness in the synodal process that Pope Francis has set in motion, and the flaws did end up having an impact on the apostolic exhortation that came out of the most recent Synod of Bishops. But it still has a searing message for those of us in the rich North. Today's NCR editorial asserts that Francis' [**'Querida Amazonia' has flaws of omission but gives us plenty to act on**](#), placing the church on the side of the powerless peoples of the Amazon.

Many were disappointed that *Querida Amazonia* didn't open the door to women deacons or married priests. But Phyllis Zagano notes that an apostolic exhortation is not a document that can officially effect that kind of change, anyway. There are other kinds of papal documents that do that, and the bishops need to act: [**It is time to ask, formally, for married priests and woman deacons**](#).

[**Creighton approves partial fossil fuel divestment as students remain 'waiting for more'**](#) — like action on the Jesuit university's investments in companies of the "Carbon Underground 200." Students of the CU Climate Movement have pledged to keep pushing for full divestment.

Fleeing imaginary tigers, the disruption of a new baby sibling, and a pointed question — all play a part in Sr. Tracey Horan's latest column for GSR: [**How would you feel? Lessons in empathy from a 5-year-old**](#).

A wonder worker whose message is all about himself and doesn't even seem to like people? [**Netflix's 'Messiah' is not my Jesus**](#), says Fr. Tom Reese, enumerating the new series' pitfalls. But he'll probably watch the second season.

[**Bloomberg bombs, Warren starts uniting: highlights from the Nevada debate**](#), as Michael Sean Winters keeps his eye on the Democratic primaries. And whether it's about the campaign trail or impeachment, readers also have their [**thoughts on current political news**](#) in this week's Letters to the Editor.

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