

## Why a Synod on Amazonia? by Fr. Peter Hughes SSC



The Vatican will host a Synod on Amazonia in October 2019. In the first of a series of articles by members of the Columban Missionary Society, Fr Peter Hughes gives the background to the Synod. An Irish Columban priest from Mayo, he has spent five decades as a missionary in Latin America, based primarily in Peru. He supports Church initiatives to protect the biodiversity of life in the Amazon and the indigenous people of the rainforest. Peter is an advisor to the Instituto Bartolome de las Casas and CELAM, the collegial council of Latin American bishops. He works with REPAM, the Pan-Amazonia Ecclesial Network, and is helping the network prepare for the Synod on Amazonia.

A Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon region is scheduled to meet in Rome in October 2019 with the theme, 'The Amazon: New paths for the Church and for integral ecology'. Why? (...)

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