

## AN INVITATION TO OUR MARIST SISTERS

In *Laudato Sí* (38),  
Pope Francis stressed  
the ecological importance  
of the Amazon and Congo Basins  
for the entire earth and  
the future of humanity,  
describing them as the  
"richly bio-diverse lungs of our planet".

And so, in preparation  
for the Synod on the Amazon,  
we encourage you  
to pray this prayer together  
in community -  
forming a Marist link of prayer  
around our Sisters in Brazil  
and the Synod!



## PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR THE AMAZON SYNOD



Lord, help your Church to listen  
to the people of the Amazon,  
and to respond **with them**  
to the devastation  
facing both people and environment.  
The Amazon in all its biodiversity  
and cultural richness  
is "a mirror of all humanity".\*  
To defend it, we must all make changes -  
within ourselves,  
our nations,  
and within the Church.

As we travel the journey  
*Laudato Sí* sets out before us,  
may we be more aware  
of the ecological and cultural crisis  
of the Amazon Basin,  
and learn how to be better carers and  
stewards of creation.  
May we courageously stand  
against injustices, including:  
loss of territory,  
exploitation,  
threats to biodiversity  
and the imposition of  
cultural and economic models  
which are alien to the lives  
of indigenous peoples everywhere.

Teach us how to listen deeply,  
to act justly,  
to love tenderly  
and to walk humbly on this earth.  
Amen

\* Prologue Working Document, *Amazon Synod*