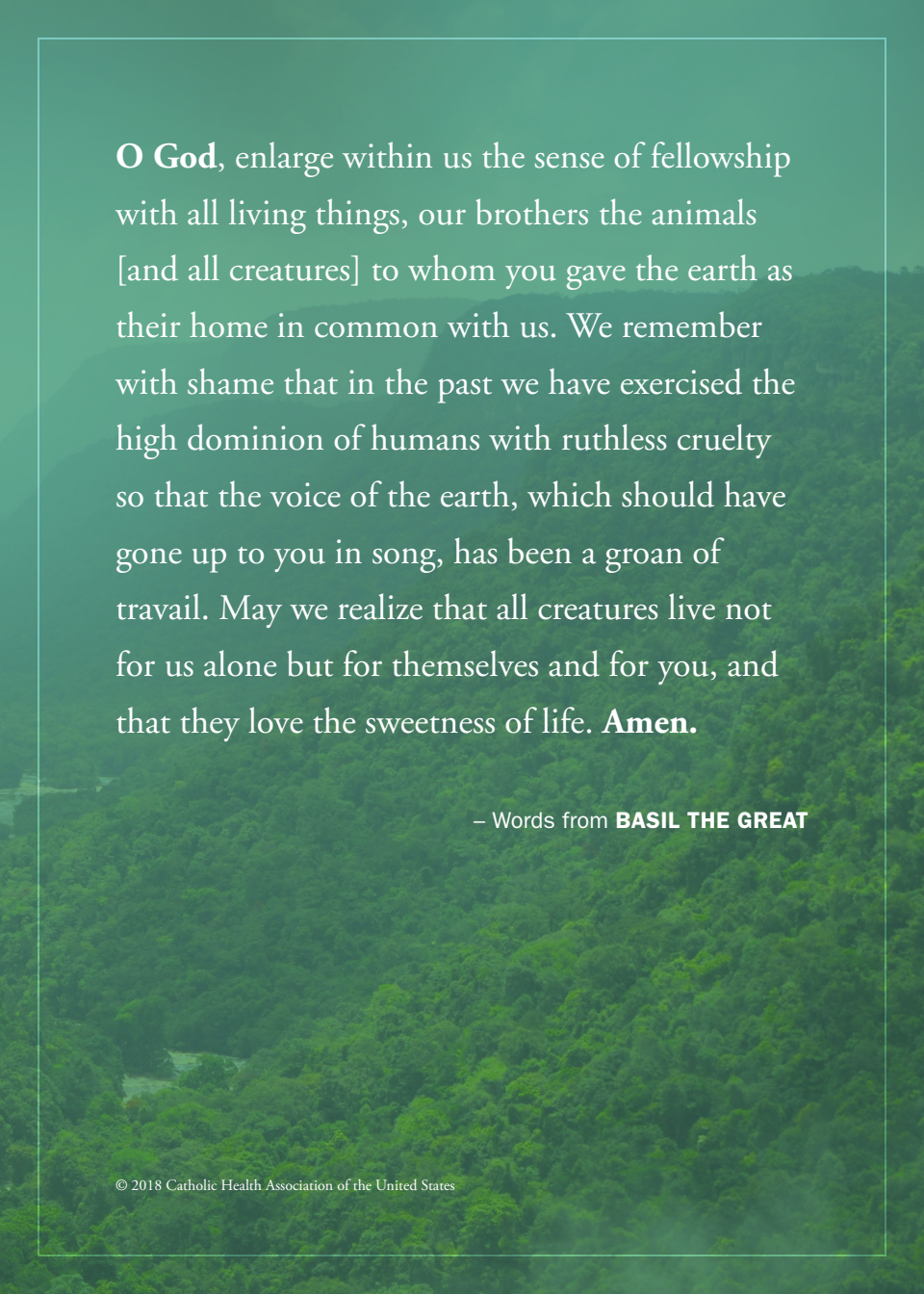


*“Defense of the Earth  
has no other purpose  
than the defense of life.”*

– **POPE FRANCIS**, meeting with representatives of  
indigenous communities of the Amazon basin,  
January 19, 2018





**O God**, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things, our brothers the animals [and all creatures] to whom you gave the earth as their home in common with us. We remember with shame that in the past we have exercised the high dominion of humans with ruthless cruelty so that the voice of the earth, which should have gone up to you in song, has been a groan of travail. May we realize that all creatures live not for us alone but for themselves and for you, and that they love the sweetness of life. **Amen.**

– Words from **BASIL THE GREAT**