

In Memory of Pope Francis



Pope Francis:



“Happy Easter to everyone!”

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025 in St. Peter’s Square



Compiled by the Office for Catechesis & Evangelization, Diocese of La Crosse, WI. Photos from Catholic News Service (CNS)

Important Dates

- Jorge Mario Bergoglio was born on Dec. 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) at age 21.
- Following his ordination in 1969, he served as a Jesuit provincial, seminary rector, and professor before St. John Paul II appointed him auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires in 1992.
- He became archbishop of the Argentine capital in 1998 and was created cardinal in 2001.

Pope Francis

The surprise election of Cardinal Bergoglio on March 13, 2013, at age 76 marked several historic firsts:

- 1) He became the first Jesuit pope
- 2) The first Pope from the Americas
- 3) The first Pope to choose the name Francis, inspired by St. Francis of Assisi's devotion to poverty, peace, and creation.

During his tenure, Pope Francis
canonized 942 saints,
more than any other pope in history.





“Pope Francis’ papacy was marked by two master themes: **mercy** and **evangelization**...

Pope Francis had a keen awareness of the destructiveness of sin, and he encouraged the Church to show the world the merciful face of Christ. He also emphasized the importance of our personal witness to the light of faith, drawing others to the life-giving joy of the Gospel.” +Bishop Robert Barron



Pope Francis proclaimed the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025

*“Hope does not
disappoint,
because the love
of God has been
poured out into
our hearts
through the Holy
Spirit who has
been given to us.”
(Romans 5:5)*





**Pope Francis passed away on
Easter Monday, April 21.**

**The 88-year-old pontiff led the
Catholic Church for 12 years.**



The body of Pope Francis was laid out in state inside his private chapel in the Vatican, Monday, April 21, 2025.



Pope Francis' coffin was carried Wednesday morning, April 23rd in solemn procession to St. Peter's Basilica, where the late pontiff will lie in state for three days for mourners to pray, and pay their final respects.

The funeral
Mass for
Pope Francis
will be on the
morning
of April 26 in
St. Peter's
Square.



Pope Francis

December 17, 1936 – April 21, 2025



Eternal rest grant unto him,
O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine
upon him.



**Pope Francis,
We Thank You for Serving Us!**