

Special Issue

The Theological Legacy of Pope Francis

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue explores the question of the theological legacy of Pope Francis. This question does not seek to offer an overall evaluation of the papacy of Francis, but by posing the question of a theological legacy, it places a stress on the intellectual dimension of the influence exercised by the Pope and considers consequences that might extend beyond one succeeding pontificate.

Here are some suggestions for the topics:

- The legacy of Francis and the Latin American tradition of doing theology after Vatican II.
- A documentary approach to studying the legacy of Francis.
- Synodality as a vehicle for the theological legacy of Pope Francis.
- The burning questions that included issues of sexual orientation, the role of women in the church, the role of gay people in ecclesial decision-making, etc.
- The “Global Compact on Education.”
- Geographic differentiation of the reception of the theological legacy of Pope Francis.
- What do intelligent critics of the Francis pontificate have to say about his probable theological legacy?
- Did the Francis pontificate have a theological impact on non-Catholic Christian theologians, or, even, on theologians in other religions?

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Gerard Kevin Whelan

Faculty of Theology, Pontifical Gregorian University, 00187 Rome, Italy

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 July 2026



Religions

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6
CiteScore 1.3



mdpi.com/si/259273

Religions
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
religions@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
religions](http://mdpi.com/journal/religions)





Religions

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6
CiteScore 1.3



[mdpi.com/journal/
religions](http://mdpi.com/journal/religions)

About the Journal

Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider *Religions* as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Arndt Büsing

Professorship Quality of Life, Spirituality and Coping, Faculty of Health, Witten/Herdecke University, Gerhard-Kienle-Weg 4, 58313 Herdecke, Germany

Prof. Dr. Klaus Baumann

Caritaswissenschaft und Christliche Sozialarbeit, Theologische Fakultät, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Platz der Universität 3, D-79098 Freiburg, Germany

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, AHCI (Web of Science), ATLA Religion Database, Religious and Theological Abstracts, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

CiteScore - Q1 (Religious Studies)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 24.5 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).

