

# POPE FRANCIS



- Pope Francis is the 266<sup>th</sup> Pope
- Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Dec. 17, 1936 (age 78)
- The first Pope from the Americas and the Jesuit order
- Ordained into the priesthood on Dec. 13, 1969
- Elected to the papacy on March 13, 2013 (at age 76)
- Chose the name Francis in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, reflecting his concern for the poor

## A Brief Biography of Pope Francis

Born in Buenos Aires on 17 December 1936, to Italian immigrants. His father Mario was an accountant employed by the railways and his mother Regina Sivori was a committed wife dedicated to raising their five children. He graduated as a chemical technician and then chose the path of the priesthood, entering the Diocesan Seminary of Villa Devoto. On 11 March 1958 he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus.

Ordained as a priest in December 1969, Bergoglio began serving as Jesuit provincial of Argentina in 1973. He later returned to his alma mater, the Philosophical and Theological Faculty of San Miguel, where he served as rector (1980-86) as well as a professor of theology.

In June 1992, Bergoglio was named titular bishop of Auca and auxiliary of Buenos Aires, and in February 1998, he became archbishop of Buenos Aires, succeeding Antonio Quarracino. Three years later, in February 2001, he was elevated to cardinal by Pope John Paul II, named the cardinal-priest of Saint Robert Bellarmine. In 2005, he was named president of the Bishops' Conference of Argentina, serving in that position until 2011.

On March 13, 2013, at the age of 76, Jorge Bergoglio was named the 266th pope of the Roman Catholic Church—becoming the first citizen from the Americas, the first non-European and first Jesuit priest to be named pope, and adopting the name Pope Francis (he reportedly took the title after St. Francis of Assisi of Italy, a Catholic preacher during the 12th and 13th centuries). Prior to the 2013 papal election, Pope Francis had served as both archbishop and cardinal for more than 12 years.

Addressing a crowd of tens of thousands in St. Peter's Square, in the Vatican City in Rome, Italy, after his election, Pope Francis stated, "As you know, the duty of the conclave was to appoint a bishop of Rome. It seems to me that my brother cardinals have chosen one who is from faraway. ...Here I am. I would like to thank you for your embrace."

Pope Francis made his first international visit in July 2013, traveling to Brazil. In December 2013, he was named Person of the Year by TIME magazine.

## Important Writings

- Encyclical: *Lumen Fidei* (The Light of Faith), 2013
- Apostolic Exhortation: *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), 2013

### Pope Francis

*Jorge Mario Bergoglio*

**Is the first pope...**

- From the Americas
- From Jesuit order
- To take name Francis

**Is known to...**

- Take the bus and subway
- Cook his meals
- Have strong devotion to Mary
- Visit the poor
- Be very spiritual
- Have low-key style
- Love soccer and tangos

**Speaks**

- Spanish, Italian, English, French and German

*"Now let's begin this journey, bishop and people... a journey of brotherhood, love and trust among us."*

<p><b>Dec. 17, 1936</b> Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Italian immigrant parents</p>	<p><b>1957</b> At age 21, falls gravely ill; eventually severe pneumonia is diagnosed, right lung partially removed</p>	<p><b>March 11, 1958</b> Enters novitiate of the Society of Jesus</p> <p>Then Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio poses with young soccer players from the San Lorenzo soccer club, of which he is known to be a fan.</p>
<p><b>March 12, 1960</b> Takes first vows as Jesuit</p>	<p><b>1960</b> Studies humanities in Padre Hurtado, Chile</p>	<p><b>1961-1963</b> Studies philosophy at San Miguel Seminary, Buenos Aires</p>
<p><b>1964-1965</b> Teaches high school literature and psychology at Jesuit secondary school in Santa Fe</p>	<p><b>1966</b> Teaches at prestigious Colegio del Salvador secondary school in Buenos Aires</p>	<p><b>1967-1970</b> Studies theology at San Miguel seminary</p>
	<p><b>Dec. 13, 1969</b> Is ordained priest</p>	<p><b>1970-1971</b> Spends "tertianship," or Third Probation period of Jesuit formation in Spain</p>
<p><b>1971-1973</b> Serves as master of novices and vice chancellor, San Miguel seminary</p>	<p><b>1973</b> Takes perpetual profession as Jesuit</p>	
<p><b>1973-1979</b> Serves as superior of Jesuit province of Argentina and Uruguay</p>	<p><b>1979-1985</b> Serves as rector of Colegio Maximo and theology teacher</p>	<p><b>1986</b> Goes to Germany to finish doctoral thesis</p>
<p><b>June 27, 1992</b> Is ordained auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires</p>	<p><b>June 3, 1997</b> Is named coadjutor archbishop</p>	<p><b>Feb. 28, 1998</b> Is installed as archbishop of Buenos Aires</p>
<p><b>2001</b> Co-presides over Synod of Bishops</p>	<p><b>Feb. 21, 2001</b> Is elevated to cardinal</p>	<p><b>2005</b> Receives second-highest number of votes in conclave that elected Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger as pope</p>
<p><b>2005-2011</b> Serves as president, Argentine Bishops Conference</p>		<p><b>March 13, 2013</b> Is elected pope by conclave of 115 cardinals</p>