

Serving as a member of the Pontifical Academy for Life during Pope Francis' tenure has been a deeply meaningful experience. Throughout his papacy, Pope Francis has consistently urged the Academy to place human relationships, solidarity, and the pursuit of the common good at the center of our mission. His encouragement has inspired us to foster a culture of life that responds with hope and compassion to the complex crises facing our world today.

Under his guidance, the Academy has grown in both its diversity and its reach, welcoming experts from a wide array of disciplines and backgrounds. Pope Francis has championed the value of open dialogue, challenging us to engage not only with longstanding ethical questions but also with new frontiers such as artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and environmental stewardship. His vision of a “human ecology” has encouraged us to consider the interconnectedness of life, dignity, and the health of our planet.

The changes he has brought—broadening our perspectives, deepening our sense of responsibility, and opening doors to collaboration—have transformed the Academy into a truly global and multidisciplinary body. Pope Francis' humility, empathy, and unwavering focus on the dignity of every person have set a standard that will continue to guide us.

As time comes for his papacy to draw to a close, the absence of his leadership will be deeply felt. His unique blend of wisdom, compassion, and courage has not only shaped the Academy but has also inspired a renewed commitment to life and human dignity throughout the Church and beyond. His legacy will remain, but his presence will be profoundly missed.

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