CATHOLICISM AT A CROSSROADS

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After the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI - an unprecedented event in modern times - a non-European has been elected for the first time: Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio from Argentina. The newly elected Pope is fully aware of the challenges awaiting him and conceded: "They came to find me at the end of the world".
The new Pope inherits a church that is facing a historic crisis: dwindling congregations in the "traditional northern countries", a Church that is perceived to be out of step with modern society, its silence when faced with the pedophile scandals that have rocked the institution in recent years, the question of celibacy and sexuality, the training of new priests, the position of women in the hierarchy of the church....
It urgently needs to polish its image and bring back its faithful. Is the Catholic Church prepared, though, to question itself and embrace the democratic modernization of society? A growing number of men - and women - in the Church (such as Father Helmut Schüller in Austria) urge their institution to reform and refuse blind obedience.
The film investigates the challenges that the Church is being confronted with on four continents, visiting the countries that are crucial to the Catholic Church today - the countries of "the south" that have seen a rise in its faithful, such as the Congo or Brazil, Argentina, but we also filmed in the traditional countries in Europe and the United States, as well as at the heart of the Vatican itself.

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