Vatican
Vatican News



NCR Vatican correspondent Christopher White, NCR contributor Sr. Rose Pacatte and NCR news editor Joshua McElwee discuss their respective experiences of visiting the body of the late Pope Benedict XVI in Rome. (NCR screenshot)

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Hundreds of thousands of people from around the world are paying their final respects to the late Pope Benedict XVI from Jan. 2-4, waiting in line for hours at St. Peter's Basilica, where his body has been transferred. Residents of Rome — including Italian President Sergio Mattarella and Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni — were among the first to pay their respects, soon joined by pilgrims and tourists alike.

NCR news editor Joshua McElwee, NCR Vatican correspondent Christopher White and longtime NCR contributor Sr. Rose Pacatte sat down in Rome to discuss their respective experiences of visiting the body of the late pope emeritus, their observations of the mood at the Basilica and offer reflections on the complicated legacy of this particular pontiff.

The mood at St. Peter's Basilica following the death of Pope Benedict XVI (YouTube/NCRonline)
This story appears in the **The Ratzinger/Benedict XVI legacy** feature series. View the full series.