Opinion



A portrait of Pope Francis is seen in the sanctuary of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City during a memorial Mass for the late pontiff April 22, 2025. Francis, formerly Argentine Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, died April 21 at age 88. (OSV News/Gregory A. Shemitz)



Heidi Schlumpf

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Daniel P. Horan

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In this episode of "The Francis Effect" podcast, National Catholic Reporter senior correspondent Heidi Schlumpf, columnist Daniel Horan and David Dault look back on the papacy of Pope Francis. They look ahead to what comes next, including his burial and the conclave. Then they look further to consider how Francis' legacy might be carried forward in the next papacy.

The hosts recorded this episode Tuesday, April 22, just a day after the pope's death.

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