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International panel presents expectations for Pope Francis's successor

by Michael Centore

riends, members, and associates of We Are Church International, a Catholic Church–reform group celebrating its 30th anniversary, gathered on May 2 to recognize the accomplishments of Pope Francis and lay out their expectations for his successor.

The conference conducted over Zoom featured nine speakers from organizations including We Are Church, the Women's Ordination Conference, the Wijngaards Institute for Catholic Social Research, and the Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform.

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Christian Weisner, a founding member of We Are Church in Germany, expressed gratitude that Francis "has started a process of spiritual and pastoral transformation over the last twelve years."

We Are Church was founded in Austria in 1995 in response to the sexual abuse crisis. Since then, it has expanded to work on all continents for "renewal of Roman Catholic Church in line with Second Vatican Council," Weisner said.

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