



## Open Letter to pope Francis

Holy Father,

us women believe that Jesus of Nazareth announced his liberating message of love to us all; men AND women.

We are mourning

- all known and unknown abuse cases of all kind in the Roman Catholic Church
- the absence of plausible apologies and aid to those who have suffered from violence
- those who no longer believe in the church and its message.

We stand before the shattered remains of our affection and trust in our church with great disappointment, bewilderment and anger.

We refrather call upon the Catholic Church, in accordance with many before us

- to deny office to those that have harmed others or have tolerated or covered up such wrongdoings
- to surrender all offenders to secular courts and to cooperate in all prosecutions without restrictions
- to allow women access to all church functions
- to abolish mandatory celibacy
- to align churchly sexual morals realistically with the reality of life.

The men of our church like to sing their praise to women. Paradoxically, men are the sole determiners of our participation in our church. As of now, only one woman is tolerated among them: Mary. On her pedestal. She stands there. Reduced to silence.

We want to take Mary off her pedestal and into our midst, as a sister facing our direction.

We will act! We will post this letter to all church gates and call all women to action with MARY 2.0

From Saturday, the 11th until Saturday the 18th of May we will not enter the church and deny our service to the church. We want to make known how empty the churches will be without us and how much important work will be unfinished without us.

- We will remain outside!
- We will celebrate worship together on the church squares, in front of the church gates.
- We will dance, sing, pray and find new words and expressions.
- We will welcome all to participate, also men.
- We will bring white sheets and cover the church squares in the colour of innocence, the colour of grief and compassion. We will use these sheets to paint, write, combine, stain and create with all ideas welcome as a collective.

We will surround the church in the colours of new beginnings!

Yours sincerely,

The women and men signing this letter.

Link to the petition: <https://weact.campact.de/petitions/offener-brief-an-papst-franziskus-aus-anlass-des-sondergipfels-uber-missbrauch-in-der-kirche>