**The Two Popes** – A Timely Parable of Faith in a Technocratic Age

Netflix’s The Two Popes (2019) [HERE](https://www.netflix.com/ca/title/80174451#:~:text=Watch%20The%20Two%20Popes%20%7C%20Netflix,TrailersMore%20to%20WatchPlans), directed by Fernando Meirelles, is more than a dramatization of Vatican intrigue—it is a timely meditation on leadership, belief, and the kind of faith society chooses to place in its leaders. In an era increasingly dominated by technocrats—leaders who rely on institutional control, procedural logic, and administrative expertise—the film poses a deeper question: Should our faith rest in those who master systems, or those who possess empathy, humility, and the courage to change?

Set during the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI (Anthony Hopkins) and the rise of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio (Jonathan Pryce), the future Pope Francis, the film dramatizes their ideological clash. Benedict is the consummate technocrat—brilliant, exacting, loyal to tradition. Bergoglio, in contrast, is pastoral, emotionally attuned, and deeply aware of the need for renewal in a faltering Church.

Their conversations—intimate, philosophical, and often humorous—mirror today’s global debate about the kind of leadership we need. The Two Popes ultimately affirms that faith, whether spiritual or civic, may now hinge less on infallibility and more on authenticity—less on rigidity and more on a readiness to listen, adapt, and serve.