



**ARCHDIOCESE OF SANTA FE
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Statement

**Archbishop John C. Wester on Pope Francis' Appointment of
Bishop Kevin Farrell to Head New Vatican Dicastery
August 17, 2016**

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ALBUQUERQUE, NM – Wednesday, August 17, 2016 - IMMEDIATE RELEASE—I am pleased to hear of Pope Francis' appointment of Bishop Kevin Farrell of the Diocese of Dallas as the Prefect of the Vatican's new Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life. This represents part of Pope Francis' restructuring of his curia, the administrative body that advises and helps the pope carry out the church's affairs worldwide. The new dicastery underscores the high priority the Holy Father places on the family, the sanctity of life and the role of the laity in our universal church in the world, in accordance with his 2016 apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, the Joy of Life.

Bishop Farrell is uniquely qualified for this distinguished position and will certainly be of great help to the Holy Father in his new role of service to the Catholic Church; he is the top-ranking American clergyman serving in the Vatican. I wish him every blessing and success.-
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