



**Archdiocese of Santa Fe
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NEWS RELEASE

**Archbishop John C. Wester to Ordain
Rev. Mr. Franklin Iwuagwu to the Priesthood**

**Priesthood Ordination Mass
Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi
131 Cathedral Pl., Santa Fe, NM 87504
Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

ALBUQUERQUE – Thursday, December 16, 2021–IMMEDIATE RELEASE-- Archbishop John C. Wester will ordain Rev. Mr. Franklin Iwuagwu to the priesthood on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi in Santa Fe. The Ordination to the Priesthood will be livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pppJcVvPnXc> .

Biography

Rev. Mr. Franklin Iwuagwu was born on May 5, 1982. He was baptized and raised Roman Catholic by his parents Thomas and Angelina in Ezinmba Imo State, Nigeria. He has four older sisters, one older brother and one younger brother. On September 18, 1995, he began the high school seminary formation at Saint Peter Seminary Okigwe, Imo State, Nigeria. In 2005, he continued his spiritual year at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Ehime-Mbano, Imo State, Nigeria. Upon completion, he attended Saint Joseph Major Seminary Ikot-Ekpene, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria for college seminary formation. He graduated with a Bachelor of Art in Philosophy. In 2010, he began the major seminary formation at Seat of Wisdom Seminary, Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria and graduated with both a Bachelor of Art in Theology and a Bachelor of Sacred Theology.

Before proceeding to ordination and after many years in formation, he decided to obtain a master's degree in Public Administration at Grand Valley State University, Allendale, Michigan. He also studied Addiction Counseling at Minneapolis Community and Technical College in Minneapolis, Minnesota and later, at Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute in Saint Paul, Minnesota. When he joined the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, he was assigned to Saint Anthony Catholic Church in Pecos, New Mexico, and has also served at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Las Vegas, New Mexico. In 2019, he attended Mount Angel Seminary in St. Benedict, Oregon to continue his seminary formation. He graduated in May 2021 with a Master of Divinity.

Contact: Office of Vocations 505.831.8143--END