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**NEWS RELEASE**

**Archbishop John C. Wester Announces New Assignment at the  
Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi and Cristo Rey**

ALBUQUERQUE – Tuesday, April 5, 2022—IMMEDIATE RELEASE—Archbishop John C. Wester has announced Very Reverend John Cannon will succeed Reverend Timothy Martinez as the Rector of the Cathedral and Pastor of Cristo Rey. In a letter dated April 2 to the parishioners of St. Francis Cathedral and Cristo Rey Parish, Archbishop Wester writes,

With this letter I wish to inform you that Father Timothy Martinez, after much reflection and prayer, has decided to step down as Rector of the Cathedral and Pastor of Cristo Rey. His sabbatical has given him new insights into his medical condition and an opportunity to work with his doctors. He has been diagnosed with IgG4-related disease, an immune-mediated condition, which makes it difficult if not impossible for him to fulfill his duties and to give you, his valued parishioners, the service he believes you should have. I am grateful to Father Martinez for serving here as rector and sharing his many talents with us. He has a long history of selfless service in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe and he will continue that service in an assignment that is conducive to his overall good health. I ask you to join me in praying for Father's well-being in the years ahead. He has asked me to assure you that you are all in his prayers as he extends to you his best wishes.

I also wish to announce that Father John Cannon, the current administrator of the Cathedral and former pastor of San Isidro in Santa Fe, has been appointed by me to succeed Father Martinez. I am grateful to Father Cannon for accepting this appointment and I know that you will give him your support and keep him in your prayers as he assumes his new duties.

Father Cannon already knows the tremendous staff we have here at the Cathedral and at Cristo Rey. I wish to thank them for all they do to serve you and to deepen the bonds that unite us as a community of faith. I am deeply grateful to each of them for their incredible dedication and fidelity to their respective ministries.

During this time of transition, I ask that you please keep Father Martinez and Father Cannon in your prayers. Please be assured of my prayers for all of you as I request that you remember me as well. May the Lord Jesus, crucified in weakness and risen in glory, fill you all with his abiding peace and love.

Discussions are ongoing about how Father Martinez will be able to best serve the people of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe while maintaining and caring for his health issues.--END