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NEWS RELEASE
Most Reverend John C. Wester on Statement on Pope Leo XIV

ALBUQUERQUE – Thursday, October 15, 2026 – IMMEDIATE RELEASE --
Most Reverend John C. Wester has issued the following statement:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your heartfelt prayers for Pope Leo as he underwent surgery this week. When we learned that the surgery was successful, we all breathed a sigh of relief. Every indication gives us reason to hope that all will be well. Still, please continue to pray for him as we await the report on his prognosis.

Like you, I am comforted by Pope Leo's calm and faith-filled approach to his illness. I ask every priest of the archdiocese to offer a Mass for the Holy Father in the coming days, and I ask all parishioners to pray for his complete healing and full recovery.

We place our trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, the source of our strength and healing, and we rely on the intercessory prayers of Our Blessed Mother, who cares for all her children.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend John C. Wester
Archbishop of Santa Fe