



**Archdiocese of Santa Fe
Office of Communications/
Social Media**

4000 Saint Joseph Place NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120-1714

Celine Baca Radigan, Director

Voice 505.831.8180, FAX 505.831.8248

cradigan@archdiosf.org, www.archdiosf.org

NEWS RELEASE



**This Holy Week
HOME Is the Holy Place**

***Stay home, practice social distancing.
Together, we can save lives.***

Archbishop John C. Wester Reminds the Faithful
El Santuario de Chimayó / Tomé Hill Pilgrimages
Are Cancelled Due to the
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

ALBUQUERQUE – Tuesday, March 31, 2020—IMMEDIATE RELEASE— The Archdiocese of Santa Fe continues to abide by New Mexico’s Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham’s March 11, 2020 Executive Order 2020-004 and amendments declaring a state of public health emergency as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As such, El Santuario de Chimayó and the Tomé Hill group pilgrimages were cancelled on March 16, 2020.

The Archdiocese of Santa Fe, along with Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and our Christian brothers and sisters, encourage all people of good faith to participate in the campaign, “This Holy Week, HOME Is the Holy Place.”

Archbishop John C. Wester said:

In unity with all Christians, we call on the faithful to make HOME the Holy Place for the sake of all families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As St. Joseph made decisions to keep the Holy Family safe, this Holy Week and Easter season, we invite you to make the decision to make your HOME the Holy Place.

We mourn the loss of life from COVID-19 and pray for those who are alone and hospitalized. Join us in keeping families safe and make HOME the Holy Place this Holy Week and Easter Season. Stay home, by practicing social distancing. Together, we can save lives.

Please know the cancelling of the pilgrimages to our most sacred sites was a very difficult decision made with a great sense of sadness. Archbishop Wester, in collaboration with Reverend Julio Gonzalez, SF, Holy Family Parish | El Santuario de Chimayó pastor and civil authorities made it out of an abundance of caution due to the gravity of our current situation. El Santuario de Chimayó will be closed Holy Thursday through Easter Monday (April 9-13, 2020). Please note El Santuario’s grounds, chapels and restrooms will be closed. Individual pilgrims are discouraged from visiting the sacred site for the safety of all our brothers and sisters.--END