



Archdiocese of Santa Fe

Office of Communications/ Social Media

4000 Saint Joseph Place NW

Albuquerque, NM 87120-1714

Leslie M. Radigan, Director

Voice 505.831.8180, FAX 505.831.8248

lradigan@archdiosf.org | www.archdiosf.org

STATEMENT

Archbishop John C. Wester on the Ethics of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine

ALBUQUERQUE – Wednesday, March 3, 2021–IMMEDIATE RELEASE-- Archbishop John C. Wester’s statement on the ethics of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine:

The FDA approval of the latest COVID-19 single dose vaccine produced by Johnson and Johnson is good news. This is especially so for those in rural parts of New Mexico where the requirement of two doses can be burdensome. Along with the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines already in use, this latest vaccine moves us even closer to herd immunity and the protection of human life.

Since there are some who may be worried that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine is not ethical, I wish to assure all Catholics in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe that in the current pandemic and given the limited vaccine options available to achieve healing for our nation and our world, it is entirely morally acceptable to receive this one dose Johnson and Johnson vaccine or either of the other two (Pfizer or Moderna). Indeed, Pope Francis has made it clear that by being vaccinated we are exhibiting a genuine love of our neighbor and a regard for the sanctity of human life.

For more information, and to find the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Vatican statements on the moral legitimacy of this and the other two vaccines, please visit <https://archdiosf.org/covid19-vaccine> --END

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