



# ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Cardinal Wuerl's Statement on the Holy Father's Acceptance of his Resignation**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Following the [news from the Vatican](#) this morning, Cardinal Donald Wuerl has issued the following statement:

“Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has accepted the resignation first offered on November 12, 2015, when I reached my 75th birthday. I am profoundly grateful for his devoted commitment to the wellbeing of the Archdiocese of Washington and also deeply touched by his gracious words of understanding.

The Holy Father's decision to provide new leadership to the Archdiocese can allow all of the faithful, clergy, religious and lay, to focus on healing and the future. It permits this local Church to move forward. Once again for any past errors in judgment I apologize and ask for pardon. My resignation is one way to express my great and abiding love for you the people of the Church of Washington.”

Please find [here](#) a letter from Pope Francis to Cardinal Wuerl.

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