ALBUQUERQUE – Wednesday, December 13, 2023—IMMEDIATE RELEASE—Most Reverend John C. Wester, Archbishop of Santa Fe, will ordain one seminarian to the transitional diaconate in the Roman Catholic Church, Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023, at 10 a.m. at San Francisco de Asis in Rachos de Taos.

Ryan Stoer will be a newly ordained deacon and will be given the authority to baptize, witness marriages, and preach the Gospel. This is the final step prior to priesthood.

**Biography provided by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe Office of Vocations**

Ryan Thomas Stoer grew up in Farmington, NM, to parents Tom and Lorrie Stoer. Ryan finds inspiration in the Gospel story of Jesus healing the blind man in John chapter 9. He believes a priest is ordained to help open the eyes of the faithful, revealing Jesus through preaching the truth and administering sacraments. A particular influence on his journey is a senior priest at his seminary, over 90 years old, whose dedication to prayer and fidelity to Jesus over 60 years of priesthood brings great joy and inspiration. Ryan's journey to the priesthood took a meaningful turn during a challenging period in his life. A priest's suggestion during confession led him to seminary in the Diocese of Jackson. However, a visit back to New Mexico, where he experienced a profound sense of home and peace, prompted his return to the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.

[Click here](#) for the worship aid, [click here](#) to livestream.

Contact: Office of Vocations 505.831.8143

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