

## Pope accepts Cardinal Wuerl's resignation

Posted by [Alan Van Wormer](#) On 10/12/2018

**WASHINGTON, DC** - The Archdioceses of Washington announced Friday morning, Oct. 12, that Pope Francis has accepted Cardinal Wuerl's resignation amid accusations of covering up sex abuse.

Following the [news from the Vatican](#) this morning, Cardinal Donald Wuerl 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 well-being 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.

The confirmation of the Cardinal's resignation comes weeks after his request following the release of a 900-page report detailing 1,000's of cases of sex abuse and misconduct.

In the report, Wuerl was accused of covering up sex abuse and misconduct during his tenure as Bishop of Pittsburgh.

This is the Cardinal's second request for resignation; the first made in 2015.

The Pope has asked Wuerl to remain an Apostolic Administrator until his successor is appointed.

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