



ARCHDIOCESE OF DENVER
**Catholic Funeral
& Cemetery Services**



SAINT FRANCES
CABRINI
Catholic Parish



Fifteenth Station

I have the joy of announcing the very early stages of a new expression of The St. Frances Cabrini parish mission to "*Go anywhere and do anything to communicate the love of Jesus to those who do not know Him or have forgotten Him.*".. called "The Fifteenth Station"

Some months ago, we were approached by the Archdiocese of Denver Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services (CFCS), asking that we consider leasing or selling a portion of our parish property across Pierce Street. Their desire being to build an office whereby they can live out their mission "*Filling the Void of Loss with Faith*" by offering funeral services convenient to residents of the southwest part of the metro area.

CFCS is not interested in providing grave sites but much of the rest of funeral related services is up for discernment in dialogue with St. Frances Cabrini Parish and normal legal, zoning, and neighborhood concerns. It is **very** early in the planning process, but the current scope includes offices, a chapel, a reception hall, and parking. It is important to note that this is not a Cabrini construction project nor is it anticipated to require any financial investment or long-term commitment.

After prayerful discernment and consultation with the Parish Finance Council, Cabrini staff members, and a group of Cabrini parishioners who spent an evening in prayer about this opportunity, we have determined not to merely negotiate use of the land but to **partner** with CFCS. The partnership being an intentional outreach to family and friends of funeral service families who are confronted with the ultimate questions of meaning, purpose, death, and life.

Our realization is twofold. That the property is as "hidden talent", not serving the apostolic mission of The Church and laying fallow. Secondly, that funerals are the moments that people are most concerned with the ultimate questions of life and are most open to the philosophical and theological wisdom of the Catholic faith, thus most open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ which culminates in the Fifteenth Station...The Resurrection.

We are indeed VERY early in the process and don't yet have answers to most detailed questions but are never-the-less excited about the future regarding this aspect of our Cabrini ministry.

By His Grace,
Fr. John Paul