



Roman Catholic

# Diocese of Tucson

Office of the Bishop

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August 28, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of La Vang Parish,

As you know from prior communication from me, I have been concerned about the decreasing membership of St. Frances Cabrini parish and the resulting financial implications. At the same time I have witnessed the growth in your parish and the need for a larger church as well as space for religious education and parish activities. Increasingly I have concluded that it would be a grave mistake to close St. Frances Cabrini parish and sell it when it is a parish complex that may prove perfect for your needs. I also believe your resulting leadership for the parish can make possible some limited English ministries—especially a weekend Mass in English as well as continuing the excellent St. Vincent de Paul Chapter there—which will be deeply appreciated by the remaining members of St. Frances Cabrini Parish.

I met on August 15<sup>th</sup> with the leadership councils for your parish. They recommended unanimously that I move forward with this merger. On August 22<sup>nd</sup> I then met with the joint Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils for St. Frances Cabrini Parish who likewise were unanimous in recommending to me that the proposed merger move forward. They have recommended a timeline of approximately December 1<sup>st</sup> of this year for the merger to take effect. I agree with that recommendation and will work toward that goal.

While change always brings challenges I believe that as the coming months unfold we will find blessings and new life. As that time approaches I kindly ask that you keep in prayer the members of your parish along with the current members of St. Frances Cabrini Parish. I also humbly ask that you remember me to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother.

May God bless you abundantly.

Very sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

Most Reverend Edward J. Weisenburger  
Bishop of Tucson