



# The Parish Voice

St. Mary's Assyrian Chaldean Catholic Church of San Jose . 109 North First Street, Campbell, CA 95008  
Year XX, No. 4 April 2008

## Archbishop Faraj Rahho of Mosul is a Martyr

Bishop of Arbil: "A heavy Cross for our Church, ahead of Easter". The cause of death is still unknown. The pope's expression of sorrow.

Mosul (AsiaNews) - The Chaldean archbishop of Mosul is dead. Archbishop Faraj Rahho was kidnapped last February 29 after the Stations of the Cross. His kidnappers gave word of his death, indicating to the mediators where they could recover the body of the 67-year-old prelate. "It is a heavy Cross for our Church, ahead of Easter", Bishop Rabban of Arbil tells AsiaNews in response to the news. Leaders of the Chaldean Church, including Bishop Shlemon Warduni, brought the body to the hospital in Mosul to ascertain the causes, still unknown, of the archbishop's death. The funeral will be held tomorrow in the nearby city of Karamles. Archbishop Rahho will be buried near Fr Ragheed, his priest and secretary killed by a terrorist brigade on June 3, 2007, while leaving the church after celebrating Mass.

The archbishop had been very sick. He had suffered a heart attack a few years ago, and since then he had needed to take medication every day. The difficult negotiations for his release carried forward over the past 14 days of his kidnapping had immediately raised concern because of the total absence of direct contact with the hostage. The conditions posed by the kidnappers - sources in Mosul tell AsiaNews - in addition to an outrageous ransom on the order of millions of dollars, had also included the provision of weapons and the liberation of Arab prisoners held in Kurdish prisons.

The news of Archbishop Rahho's death "profoundly wounds and saddens" the pope, says the director of the Vatican press office, Fr Federico Lombardi. Benedict XVI hopes that "this tragic event may renew once again and with greater force the efforts of all, and in particular of the international community, for the pacification of this greatly tormented country". Three times in recent days, the pope had launched an appeal for the liberation of the bishop. Numerous Muslim leaders had also spoken out for the prelate's release, both Sunnis and Shiites, in Iraq, Lebanon, and Jordan, and also condemned the action as "contrary to Islam".



**Mar-Paulos Farj Rahoo**  
**Archbishop of Mosul, Iraq**  
**Martyr For Jesus Christ**  
**January 20,1942-March 12,200**

Was born in Mosul, Iraq on January 20,1942. He finished his elementary school at St. Peter's Catholic School.

He entered St. Peter's Seminary in Mosul in1954. He finished his studies of Philosophy and Theology at the same seminary in Baghdad.

He was ordained priest on January 10,1965.

He served as pastor of Mar-Ishaya Parish in Mosul from 1965-1974

He founded the Workers Organization under the name of St. Joseph, and many others Youth Groups for the young and young adults in Mosul and Baghdad

He went to Rome in 1974 for study, and earned master degree in Pastoral Theology from St. Thomas Aquinas University in1977.

He returned to Mosul and founded new parish under the name of St. Paul and started building the church. At the same time he was serving as pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish until 1983.

In 1983 he was appointed pastor of the church he built under the name of St. Paul.

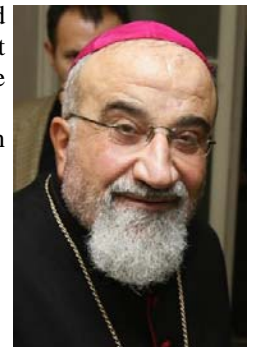
He founded the organization of "Charity and Joy" for the handicaps, and he opened branches for this organization in Baghdad and Duhok.

He was elected Archbishop of Mosul on January 2001 and was ordained on February 16,2001 by his Beatitude Mar-Raphael I Bidawid.

He was kidnapped on February 29,2008 where two of his guards and driver were killed near the Holy Spirit Church where he had just finished the "Station of the Cross" prayer.

He became Martyr for Jesus Christ on March 122008.

May his prayers be with us all.



## Special Thanks

We would like to thank all the members of our Auxiliary Ladies for the good job they did for the Oushaneh Bazaar. They worked very hard for two weeks to make this bazaar successful. They made \$12,000.00 net profit for the church. May God bless them and repay them in His Kingdom of Heaven.



### Church Committee Election

On Sunday, May 18, 2008 we will have the election for the new church committee. This election takes place in our parish every two years. If you would like to be candidate for this election, please call Rev. Yoshia Sana and give him your name before May 11, 2008.

The conditions to be accepted as candidate are:

- 1- To be member of our parish.

- 2- To attend the Holy Mass every Sunday and days of Obligations.
- 3- To be in good stand with the teaching of the Catholic Church.
- 4- To be 21 years or older (male or female).

The church committee in the Catholic Church is not to be leader of the church, but to assist the Pastor in fulfilling his ministry to the parish. It is always presided over by the Pastor. It is purely consultative in nature and has no legislative or decision-making power of its own.

We thank all the members of the Parish Committee for the good service they have done in last two years to our parish. May the Lord bless them all.

## Disciples Feet Wash Holy Thursday, April, 20, 2008

On Holy Thursday, March 20, 2008, Fr. Yoshia Sana celebrated the Holy Mass of the Last Supper of Our Lord. During the Mass he washed the feet of twelve boys from our parish to remember what Jesus did on the Last Supper he had with his Disciples, how he washed their feet to teach them how to serve each other, and how to be humble as he was (John 13:1-17).

The Disciples were:

Alex Odisho  
Andrew Alkakos  
Andrew Yadegar  
Broniel Ebrahimi  
Daniel Iskander  
David Gewrgis  
Eliot Odisho  
Joseph Hanna  
Kasim Kahraman  
Lawrence Butros  
Thomas Sargis  
Yohan Khanghah

***May the Lord bless them and make them  
real disciples for Him.***

# Parish News And Events

## First Communion Classes

On Friday, March 28, 2008 we started the classes for the First Communion for the children of eight ears and older. These classes will take place every Friday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Children will receive the First communion on June 29,2008. Please bring your children from the beginning of these classes.

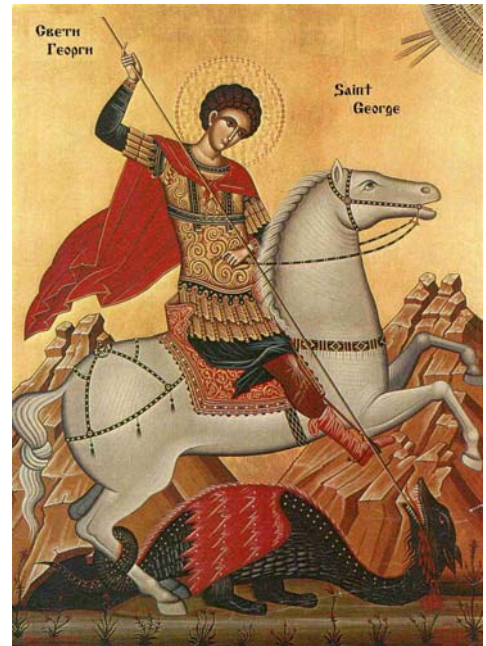
## Dukhrana of Mar— Gewargis

On Sunday, April 27, 2008 we will celebrate the Feast of St.. George (Mar-Gewargis). After the Holy Mass we will have *Dukhrana* to be organized and served by our Auxiliary Ladies at the hall of our church. All your donations and contributions will be highly appreciated. Come and bring your families and friends to celebrate with us.



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