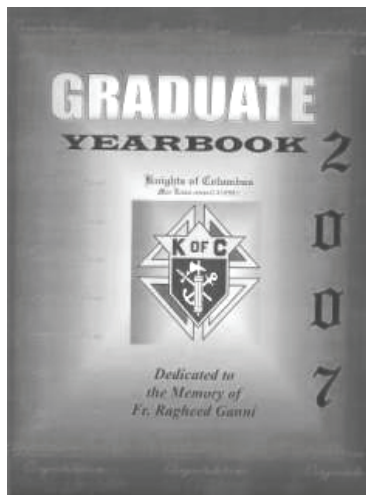


Graduation Celebration for the Class of 2007



The annual graduation celebration honoring the class of 2007 was held on Friday June 29, 2007 at St. Peter's Hall, El Cajon, CA. The Knights of Columbus/Mar Toma Council under the patronage of his Excellency Mar Sarhad Yawsip Jammo hosted the event. This year the celebration was special in that it was dedicated to the memory of Fr. Ragheed Ganni, killed in Iraq, a Chaldean Martyr of faith and patriotism.

To begin the celebration, MC Wisam Maroge greeted the guests of the evening by his welcoming speech. Soon after, the Bishop along with the priests and the Knights of Columbus entered the hall, signaling the start of the event. A prayer was then recited by Father Michael Bazzi with the clergy, following a reading from the Gospel read by graduate Peter Alkatib, then following the Gospel. Teaba Theweny read the petitions. The prayer was followed by Mar Sarhad's inspiring speech to the graduates in which he congratulated the graduates,

"Your accomplishment is one to be proud of. I would like to remind you that both in your past accomplishments and in your future responsibilities, you are not alone, but are members of a larger family, one which is made up of three distinct layers. Your first family is your physical family at home because in some way it is their accomplishment as well. They have supported and encouraged you throughout these years. Your second family is your Chaldean community who is proud of you - from the Church, which is the soul of the Chaldean community,

