



**DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS**  
*Office of Communications*

**For Immediate Release**

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**Bishop Hurley on the tragic death of Archbishop Rahho**

The U.S. Bishops expressed their “profound shock and sorrow” Thursday following news of the death of Chaldean Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho who was kidnapped in Mosul, Iraq on February 29. Bishop Walter A. Hurley, bishop of Grand Rapids, along with his brother bishops, stands in solidarity with the Chaldean Catholic Patriarch and the Chaldean Church in Iraq.

“Archbishop Rahho was a “respected, spiritual leader who died for his faith,” said Bishop Hurley. “The needless and tragic death of the archbishop and the persecution of Christians throughout the area are unacceptable. We pray for the people of the Chaldean Catholic community in their time of grief, and for greater tolerance and peace throughout the world.”

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