

# Richmond bishop speaks to campus Catholics

*O'Sullivan exemplifies new Catholic attitudes toward homosexuality, youth and other denominations*

By Heather Seely  
News Production Assistant

Jubilee, forgiveness, love and acceptance were Bishop Walter O'Sullivan's main themes as he addressed the university's Catholic community Oct. 1.

O'Sullivan, the bishop of the Diocese of Richmond, spoke to a crowd of roughly two dozen people and performed Mass the next day during his visit to the university.

His focus during the trip was discussion about the new millennium. O'Sullivan referred to Leviticus 25, which calls for a jubilee every 50th year.

He said he views the coming millennium as a jubilee, which is a return to the land and a time for new beginnings, forgiveness and love.

"A return to the land is also a return to the land of our own bodies. Be good to yourself. Be at peace. Forgive ourselves," O'Sullivan said.

"The idea of jubilee, the idea of forgiveness, the idea of letting go. I would love to see some universal forgiveness. That is the whole idea of jubilee — everyone getting back together."

O'Sullivan discussed a variety of topics during his conversation with the Catholic community. He spoke on his feelings about society, the church, the Pope, young people, gays and lesbians, marriage and divorce.

However, throughout his informal discussion, his message of love, forgiveness and acceptance remained the same; he delivered it with a sense of reality and a sense of humor, sharing many personal anecdotes.

O'Sullivan said he feels that the most important thing is being able to forgive others even if the people who offended are not willing to ask for forgiveness.

"So many are rejected by parents

**"A convergence is taking place. The only thing we don't share is a Eucharist. I would love it if there could be inter-communion. We are all one church."**

Walter O'Sullivan

Bishop of the Diocese of Richmond

who are embarrassed and blame themselves," O'Sullivan said. "I have anointed and buried people with AIDS and their families wouldn't come to the funerals. It is shocking."

O'Sullivan's feelings reflect a new movement in the Catholic Church toward acceptance and away from condemnation. A bishop in the Catholic Church recently released a statement to the parents of gays and lesbians that they must love their children.

"We shouldn't be a judgmental people," O'Sullivan said.

O'Sullivan has been a priest for

44 years, practicing mainly in southern Virginia before settling in Richmond in 1960. He moved up through the ranks from chancellor to auxiliary bishop and finally to the Bishop of Richmond, a position he has held for the past 23 years.

As the Bishop of Richmond, his job varies, but O'Sullivan believes in what he refers to as "a theology of presence."

"I think the bishop has to be present to the people. The reality is you've got to go to them," O'Sullivan said. "I see the role of the Bishop is to be among the people. I can't just be sitting in Richmond.

Have car, will travel."

Involvement in many different organizations like the Christian Children's Fund and the Catholic Peace movement, of which he is bishop president, keeps O'Sullivan continually on the road practicing his theology of presence.

"I get a lot of jollies," O'Sullivan said. "I find myself giving a lot of talks. I'm never home. I'm home at most 40 percent of the time."

O'Sullivan also spends his time visiting some of the many colleges in his diocese. In these colleges, Catholic students are usually the largest religious denomination. The president of the University of Richmond, a Baptist school, called Bishop O'Sullivan one day and said, "You're ahead. There are more of you than there are of us."

O'Sullivan said he feels the campus ministries are instrumental because of all the trials dealt with by college students.

"There is a lot of pressure on young people, tremendous pressure. I think young people tend to worry more than we do. I think there is a lot of anxiousness," O'Sullivan said. He said he thinks that campus ministries are more attractive to students because they have a more intimate feel than community churches.

O'Sullivan feels there is also a resurgence of Catholic schools.

"Catholics are coming back with a vengeance. I hope they are not running from something, but running to something," O'Sullivan said.

At this point, O'Sullivan is more concerned with unification, which is part of the idea of jubilee. He said he would like to see more ecumenical services in the church.

"A convergence is taking place. The only thing we don't share is a Eucharist. I would love it if there could be inter-communion. We are all one church," O'Sullivan said.



Noel Fox/Old Gold and Black

## Now what about the stairs?

A university worker lays down fresh paint on a handicapped parking space. Workers have painted these and other markings on parking lots around campus recently.

## WAKE WATCH

If you have a question about something on campus, send e-mail to [news@ogb.wfu.edu](mailto:news@ogb.wfu.edu), fax to 910-758-4561 or write to P.O. Box 7569.

**Q. Why has the message on the electronic sign in the food court of the Benson University Center not been updated, and how often is the message supposed to be changed?**

— C. K.

The message on the electronic sign should be updated any day now, according to Julie Reto, an administrative assistant in Benson. "We are in the process right now of getting it changed," she said.

Reto said that their staff is in a transition period and that the new people in charge of changing the sign are still being trained.

Another thing stifling the process is that they had to wait for the Student Union calendar for October, which they received Oct. 6, according to Reto.

In the future they plan to update the electronic calendar each month, Reto said.

**Q. Where is the television that used to be in front of the Pizza Hut area of the Benson food court?**

— K. B.

According to Joanna Iwata, the director of Benson, the television was never supposed to be there. "It wasn't something that was supposed to be there in the

first place," she said. "The television was borrowed without our authority," Iwata said.

An employee who was working in the food court area brought the television down from upstairs without permission, according to Iwata.

**Q. What days and hours does Safe Rides run, and will the service bring off-campus students to their homes?**

— M. G.

According to senior Drew Taska, the president of Safe Rides, the service is not currently running at all.

In the past, it has served student's needs from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. Wednesday and Thursday nights, but because of a lack of volunteers the organization cannot presently provide the service.

Taska said that, in the past, Greek organizations have donated volunteers, but this year, many Greek organizations have pager systems which they use to arrange rides for their members. "The Greeks have no reason to help now," he said.

When the service was running, the drivers transported students home whether they lived on or off campus. "We usually stay within a few miles of campus," Taska said. "It's up to the discretion of who is driving," he said.

The shuttle service does not provide transportation to off-campus parties, Taska said.

The organization is still trying to find volunteers so that it may provide the service this year, according to Taska. "We are hoping to expand the hours from what it was previously," he said.

They had thought that the new alcohol policy would pique interest in the service, since students might be likely to drink off-campus, he said. "We feel that there is more need now than there has ever been," Taska said.

**Q. Where are students allowed to drink alcohol on campus?**

— J. G.  
According to the Social Regulations and Policies section of the student handbook, "Persons of legal age may consume alcoholic beverages in the following locations: residence hall rooms, University apartments, leased lounges (members and guests only), suite/hallway lounges (residents and guests only), and satellite and theme houses (residents and guests only)."

Areas in which consuming or displaying alcohol is forbidden include classroom buildings, Benson, Reynolda Hall, the library, the gymnasium, Wait Chapel and grounds and buildings of Reynolda Gardens, according to the handbook.

## BRIEFLY

Campus organizations may have their announcements listed by sending e-mail to [news@ogb.wfu.edu](mailto:news@ogb.wfu.edu), faxing to 910-758-4561 or writing to P.O. Box 7569. The deadline for inclusion in each week's paper is 5 p.m. Monday.

### Student Health Services provides flu vaccinations by appointment

Influenza vaccinations ("flu shots") are available at Student Health Service for the rest of the semester. The cost of the shot is \$8.

To schedule an appointment, call Ext. 5218 between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. or between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Allow 30 minutes for the appointment.

### Anthropology Museum sponsoring course, exhibit in Chinese folk art

The Museum of Anthropology is offering an adult education course on traditional Chinese folk art in October. Classes will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. today, Oct. 16, 23 and 30 in the museum's classroom.

The cost of the class is \$65 for community members and \$60 for Museum Friends.

The class is being held in conjunction with an exhibit on Chinese folk art and artifacts titled "The Good Earth: Folk Art and Artifacts from the Chinese Countryside," which will be on display until Nov. 26.

For more information, call the Museum of Anthropology at Ext. 5282.

### Professor of Italian literature to discuss theater in several cultures

Playwright Mario Fratti will lecture on "The differences between Modern Italian, European and American Theater" at 7 p.m. Oct. 13 in Scales 102.

Fratti, a professor of Italian literature at Hunter College, is an internationally acclaimed playwright and drama critic.

His 47 plays have received at least 400 productions in 18 languages.

His musical "Nine" inspired by Fellini's film *8 1/2* won the O'Neil Award, the Richard Rodgers Award, two Outer Circle Awards, eight Drama Desk Awards and five Tony Awards.

Fratti also serves as a New York drama critic for nine European newspapers.

### Volunteers needed to dance with mentally handicapped at Fall Ball

Community Awareness through Responsive Education is looking for volunteers to participate in its Fall Ball.

The Fall Ball is an annual dance where volunteers from the campus community dance with mentally handicapped adults.

The handicapped dance will take place from 3:45 to 6 p.m. Oct. 15.

For more information, call freshman James Han at Ext. 6823 or e-mail him at [hanjp01@wfu.edu](mailto:hanjp01@wfu.edu).

### Gandhi's grandson to visit campus, lecture, autograph books

The Asian Student Interest Association, along with administrative offices, academic departments and student organizations, is co-sponsoring a visit to the university by Arun Gandhi, the grandson of the famous Indian leader.

He will speak at 8 p.m. Oct. 16 in Brendle Recital Hall in Scales.

He will also teach a class either the same day or the following day within the philosophy, politics or religion departments.

Gandhi will speak to a mainly student audience on nonviolence and will be present for a book signing and dinner reception as well.

For more information, contact senior Al-Husein Madhany at Ext. 6654.

### \$400 grand prize offered by SU in upcoming scavenger hunt

Student Union will sponsor a scavenger hunt from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 16. Sign-ups are in Benson 335. The cost is \$5 per team. There is no limit on number of team members.

The winning team gets \$400. There are also second- and third-place cash prizes.

For more information, call Ext. 5697.

### LEAD applications available for freshmen, sophomores

Leadership, Excellence, Application and Development is now taking applications from interested freshman and sophomores.

This experimental learning program of leadership skills and personal development is offered from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on eight consecutive Wednesday or Thursday afternoons beginning in January.

Applications are available in the Student Development Office, Benson 317, and are due by Oct. 27.

### Mellon Fellowship Applications offered for PhD study

The Mellon Fellowship is available to any college senior or graduate of the past five years who has not yet begun graduate study and plans to attain a doctorate degree in a humanistic field.

The purpose of the fellowship is to attract exceptionally promising students to prepare for careers in teaching and scholarship in humanistic studies and to contribute to the continuity of teaching and research in American colleges and universities.

If you are interested in learning more about this fellowship, contact Susan Faust, an assistant to the Provost Emeritus, at Ext. 5891 by Nov. 1 to schedule an appointment.

### Scholarship opportunities offered in mathematics, science

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation offers merit-based scholarships of up to \$7,500 per year to current sophomores and juniors interested in research careers in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics and physics.

The scholarships can cover tuition, fees, books and room and board.

Pre-applications are due by Nov. 3. Students will be nominated by the Goldwater Wake Forest Scholarship

Committee that consists of one faculty member from each of the departments of biology, chemistry, mathematics and computer science and physics.

For more information and pre-applications, see Cindy Davis, an administrative secretary, in Winston 226.

### The Howler is looking for student groups not yet registered

The *Howler* Organizations section is looking for any groups not registered with the Student Life Office.

If you are part of such a group, or are not sure, please contact Organizations Editor senior DeAnna Lewis at Ext. 6605 or e-mail her at [lewisdm4@wfu.edu](mailto:lewisdm4@wfu.edu).

### The Philomathesian seeking essay submissions for publication

The *Philomathesian* seeks non-fiction essays by students and faculty for this semester's journal.

The deadline for submission is Oct. 27. All submissions can be brought to Huffman 015, the *Philomathesian* office.

For more information, contact senior Shannon Bothwell at Ext. 6650.

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