Papers of William H. Shannon Archives of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester

Overview of the Collection

Title: Papers of William H. Shannon Creator: Msgr. William H. Shannon 1943-2012, bulk 1970-2012

Accession: 2013-9

Size: 39 boxes; 18.5 linear feet

Abstract: The personal and scholarly files of Msgr. William H. Shannon, professor of

religious studies at Nazareth College of Rochester (1946-1982) and founding president of the International Thomas Merton Society. Included are articles, talks

and presentations, homilies, research files, journals, and correspondence.

Biography of William H. Shannon

William H. Shannon was born December 6, 1917, in Rochester, N.Y. He grew up in St. Salome Parish in Irondequoit, N.Y., and was educated at the parish school, St. Andrew's Seminary (Rochester), and St. Bernard's Seminary (Rochester). He was ordained on June 5, 1943, by Bishop James E. Kearney at Sacred Heart Cathedral and was named a domestic prelate (monsignor) in 1966.

His sole parish assignment was as assistant pastor at Sacred Heart Cathedral from 1943 to 1945. When he was appointed professor of religion at Nazareth College of Rochester in 1946, he began an association with Nazareth and the Sisters of St. Joseph that continued for the rest of his life.

Msgr. Shannon earned a master's degree in history from Canisius College in 1949 and a doctorate in history from the University of Ottawa in 1953, and he completed post-doctoral work at McMaster University. He was named full professor at Nazareth in 1958 and was honored as professor emeritus upon his retirement in 1982.

While a faculty member and chair of the college's Department of Religion, he became a widely known and respected teacher of theology, Scripture, and Church history. Committed to the spirit and reforms of the Second Vatican Council, he wrote often about Biblical and liturgical renewals, authority in the Church, and interreligious dialogue. He served as chaplain of the college from 1949 to 1975, and as chaplain to the Sisters of St. Joseph from 1980 until his death in 2012.

In the 1970s Msgr. Shannon developed a deep interest in the writing of Thomas Merton. His research and contacts with other Merton scholars led him to play a key role in organizing the International Thomas Merton Society (for which he served as founding president), and his extensive writing on the Cistercian monk's life and works established him as one of the world's foremost authorities on Merton. He authored and edited many books and articles including several volumes of Merton's letters and essays, *The Thomas Merton Encyclopedia*, and *Silent Lamp*, an acclaimed biography. He also wrote extensively on a range of topics including spirituality, non-violence, moral issues, liturgy, Scripture, and prayer.

After his retirement, Msgr. Shannon continued lecturing and attending conferences worldwide. His correspondence suggests the many associations he developed during his long and prolific career. His distinctions include an endowed chair in Catholic studies and a lecture series at Nazareth College, both of which bear his name. He received honorary degrees from Nazareth College, St. Bernard's Institute of Theology and Ministry, and St. Bonaventure University.

In addition to his scholarship, Msgr. Shannon will be remembered for the spiritual guidance he offered to many, his commitment to non-violence, the depth and insight of his homilies, and his perspective on faith.

Scope and Contents

The papers of William H. Shannon cover the many areas of interest of his professional life, including Scripture, liturgy, the Papacy and authority in the Roman Catholic Church, the Second Vatican Council, non-violence and peace, spirituality, and moral issues such as end-of-life decisions. The progression of Msgr. Shannon's thought and teaching on these topics can be traced in his published articles, presentations, and homilies. While some material in the collection is from 1940 to 1960, the bulk dates from the 1970s to 2012.

Of particular interest are his files on Thomas Merton which include articles, talks, and correspondence with Merton scholars around the world. Widely recognized as one of the foremost authorities on Merton, Msgr. Shannon wrote prolifically about the Cistercian monk's life and works, forming many associations with other followers of Merton and, in some cases, with those who knew him.

Also of interest are his homilies, the majority given in his role as chaplain to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester (1980-2012). Included are a complete set of his liturgical year homilies (1980-1981 through 2011-2012); homilies for feast days, secular holidays, and special events; and funeral homilies for Sisters of St. Joseph (some of which have been published in *Cloud of Witnesses: Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester Remembered*, 2006 and 2008).

Organization

Series 1: Personal, Biographical (1943 - 2012)

8 boxes

Series 2: Papers, Talks (bulk 1970s - 2012)

5 boxes

Series 3: Research Files (1980s - 2010)

6 boxes

Series 4: Thomas Merton (1960s - 2012)

9 boxes

Series 5: Published Work of William H. Shannon (1952 - 2012)

3 cartons

Works on Merton are included in Series 4.

Series 6: Homilies (bulk 1980 - 2012)

4 cartons

Series 7: Books (1954 - 2012)

4 boxes

Administrative Information

Access: This collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Archives of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester.

Preferred Citation: Item, folder, box, Papers of William H. Shannon, Archives of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, NY.

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Detailed Description of the Collection

SERIES 1: PERSONAL, BIOGRAPHICAL

Box 37-1-1 Personal

- 1. Photographs
- 2. Honorary degrees
- 3. Prayer books
- 4. VHS tape and DVD: First Mass at St. Salome Church (1943)
- 5. VHS tape: Presentation on St. Paul (2009)
- 6. VHS tape: "The Story of Icons: Faith in Color, Prayer on Wood" (1988)
- 7. DVD: St. Paul's Journey (2009)
- 8. DVD: Presentation on Vatican II (n. d.)

Box 37-1-2 Notebooks, Journals

- 1. Reading notes: 1974-1975 and 2004-2007
- 2. Retreat notes: 1982, 1988, 1991, 1992
- 3. Notes on reading Merton's journals: 1988
- 4. Notes on contemplative prayer and Merton (n.d.)
- 5. "Notes on the Sacraments," 1950
- 6. Journals: 1987, 1996-1997, 2010

Box 37-1-3 Thesis, Dissertation

- "A History of the Lima School Case with Some Constitutional Aspects," Canisius College, 1949
- 2. "The Religious Garb Issue as Related to the School Question in New York State," University of Ottawa, 1952

Box 37-1-4 "A Celebration by His Friends," 1997 (Tribute to Bill Shannon on his 80th birthday)

Box 37-2-1 Personal: Biographical

- 1. Curriculum vitae
- 2. Personal information
- 3. Professional information
- 4. Tributes, celebrations
- 5. Memoir material
- 6. Miscellaneous ("Musings")
- 7. Genealogy
- 8. Diocese of Rochester: Presbyteral Council
- 9. Priests Association of Rochester
- 10. Funeral
- 11. Merton Seasonal: In memoriam issue (2012)
- 12. Notes, cards received during last illness
- 13. Notebook with messages written to WHS during his last illness
- 14. Sympathy cards
- 15. Zuber Road property

Box 37-2-2 Personal: Correspondence

- 1. Master list of letters
- 2. Former students
- 3. Religious
- 4. Brennan, Sr. Margaret
- 5. Clark, Bishop Matthew H.
- 6. Curran, Rev. Charles
- 7. Hickey, Archbishop James (regarding Curran)
- 8. Ratzinger, Cardinal Joseph (regarding Curran)
- 9. Correspondence regarding publishing and reviews, 1981-1999
- 10. Correspondence regarding publishing and reviews, 2000-2012

Box 37-2-3 Personal: Correspondence

- 1 1981-1986
- 2 1987-1988
- 3 Jan. 1989 June 1989
- 4 July 1989 Dec. 1989
- 5 1990
- 6 1991
- 7 1992
- 8 1993-1994
- 9 1995-1996
- 10 1997-1998
- 11 2004-2007
- 12 SSJ Brazil mission
- 13 Tanzanian Sisters

Box 37-2-4 Personal: Correspondence, Interviews

- 1. Dissent / Dialogue in the Church
- 2. Church, Papacy, Vatican II
- 3. Church, Papacy, Vatican II
- 4. Death, hospice, end-of-life issues
- 5. Liturgy
- 6. Moral issues
- 7. Nazareth College
- 8. Prayer
- 9. Scripture
- 10. Theology / Spirituality
- 11. Theology / Spirituality
- 12. War, peace, non-violence
- 13. Women in the Church
- 14. Interviews
- 15. Christmas

SERIES 2: PAPERS, TALKS

Box 37-2-5 Papers, Talks: Church, Papacy, Vatican II

- 1. "Authority and Leadership in the Church" (1997)
- 2. "Authority in the Church" (2002)
- 3. "Authority in the Church: How It All Began" (2003)
- 4. "Authority in the Church, or Whose Church is It Anyway?" (2006) "The Church in Search of the Truth" (2006)
- 5. Clark, Bishop Matthew: "The Pastoral Exercise of Authority"
- 6. "Benedict XVI and the Necessity of the Church for Salvation" (2007)
- 7. Talk on the Catechism (1993)
 - "Catechism of the Catholic Church" (1994)
- 8. "Catholicism and Interreligious Dialogue" (notes, 2007)
 - "The Unity of All Christians: Is It Possible?" (2007)
- 9. "Celebrating Pope John Paul II" (2005)
- 10. "Celebration of Vatican II" (2005)
- 11. "The Church" (2009-2010)
- 12. "Toward a Democratic Church" (1992)
 - "The Mystical Element in the Church (1992)
 - "Lay Ministry" (1993)
 - "The Church as Mystical Communion" (2010)
 - "Role of the Laity in the Ministry and Teaching of the Church" (n. d.)
- 13. "The Church in Search of the Truth" (1996, 2006)
- 14. "The Church in Search of its Identity" (2009)

- 15. "On the Experience of Church" (1996) "Public Opinion in the Church" (n. d.)
- 16. "Church of Fear or Church of Freedom?" (2009)
- 17. "The Ecumenical Movement" (notes, 2007)

Box 37-2-6 Papers, Talks: Church, Papacy, Vatican II

- 1. "The Church and Dissent" (1986)
- 2. "The Future of the Papacy" (2000)
 - "The Bishop of Rome in History" (n. d.)
 - "The Primacy of Peter" (n. d.)
 - "A History of the Papacy" (2005)
- 3. "Seven Shifts in the Church" (2005)
 - "Vatican II, Part I" and "Vatican II, Part II" (2005)
 - "Have the Prophets of Doom Come Back?" (2004)
 - "Vatican II: Overview" (2009)
 - "Vatican Council 40 Years Later" (2005)
 - "The Church and the World" (n. d.)
 - "Reception of Vatican II" (1997)
- 4. "Pius IX and Vatican I" (2005)
- 5. "Public Opinion in the Roman Catholic Church" (2007)
- 6. "Who Am I to Stand in God's Way: Reflections on Optional Celibacy" (2007)
- 7. "Role of the Papacy, or Do We Need the Pope?" (2010)
- 8. "Ecclesiology I: What is Church?" (2006)
 - "On the Experience of Church" (2006)
- 9. "The Liturgy of the Eucharist" (2003)
 - "Eucharist: Understanding Christ's Body" (1998)
- 10. "The Role of the Papacy in a United Christian Church" (2010)
- 11. "Second Spring: The Revival of Catholic Letters" (n. d.)
 - "The Man Who Was Knox" (1961)
- 12. "The State of the Church in America" (2004)
- 13. "Where in the World is the Catholic Church Going?" (2009)
- 14. "Religious Beliefs, Common Good, and Public Order" (2004)
- 15. "On Being a Bishop" (1988)

Box 37-2-7 Papers, Talks: Death, Hospice, End-of-life; Liturgy; Moral Issues; Scripture

- 1. "Christian Death and All That Follows" (2000)
 - "Medicine and Ethics: On End-of-Life Decisions" (2004)
- 2. "Heaven: A Talk" (2004)
- 3. "Here on the Way to There" (Talk at St. Ann's Home, 2005)
 - "The Hospice Movement" (2003)
- 4. "Growth through Diminishment" (1978)
 - "Perspectives on Growing Older" (1995, 1996)
 - "Invocation at St. Joseph Convent Infirmary" (1996)
- 5. "Easter as Sacrament" (2005)
 - "The Centrality of Easter" (2008)
 - "The Liturgical Season of Lent-Easter-Pentecost" (n. d.)
 - "The Paschal Feasts" (n. d.)
- 6. "Theological Perspectives on the Eucharist" (1981)
 - "The Eucharist and the Liturgy of the World" (1998)
 - "Eucharistic Revolutions: A History" (2006)
 - "Eucharistic Crisis" (n. d.)
- 7. "Isaiah, Karl Rahner, and the Eucharist" (2008)
- 8. "The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick" (2008)
- 9. "Liturgy and Life" (1997)
 - "The Meaning of Liturgy" (1992)
 - "Liturgy: Celebration of the Christian Mystery" (2011)
- 10. "Christian Conscience" (1967)
 - "Christian Conscience" (2011)

- 11. "Reflections of Christians on Homosexuality" (2003)
 - "Homosexuality and the Bible" (n. d.)
 - "Theological Stance on Sexuality and Marriage" (n. d.)
- 12. "Toward a New World Consciousness" (2003) 2003 Vita Award Program
- 13. "To the Board of St. Joseph's Hospital" (Elmira, NY, ca. 1989) (Catholic Church teaching on sterilization)
- 14. "What's Wrong with Sin?" (2003)
- 15. "Religious Beliefs, Common Good, Public Order" (2004)
- 16. "Hermeneutics: Interpreting the Bible" (2006)
- 17. "How to Read the Infancy Narratives" (2006, 2011)
- 18. "How to Read the Gospels" (2006)
- 19. "Learning to Read the Bible" (2012)
- 20. "The Passion and the Resurrection" (2010)
 - "Notes on the Passion Narrative in the Gospels" (2005)
 - "The Resurrection Documents of the New Testament" (2005)
- 21. "There's Something about Mary" (2004)
- 22. Conferences on St. Paul (2007, 2008, 2009)
- 23. "A Retreat with King David: Praying the Psalms" (n. d.)

Box 37-2-8 Papers, Talks: Theology, Spirituality

- 1. "Atheism: What Atheists Think About God" (2007)
- 2. "The Best of What We Believe: An Essential Catechism" (n. d.)
- 3. "A Century of Theology" (1968)
- 4. Classes on God (1995)
- 5. Baccalaureate Addresses, Nazareth College (1971, 1972, 1973, 1982)
- 6. "What Time Is It?" (2010 Baccalaureate Address, Nazareth College)
- 7. "Jerusalem and Athens" (1982 Commencement Address, St. Bernard's Institute)
- 8. "Contemplation and Technology" (n. d.)
- 9. "The Creed: The Forgotten Articles" (n. d.)
- 10. "The 'O' Antiphons" (2004)
- 11. "The Quest for the Historical Jesus" (n. d.)
 - "What Do We Really Know About Jesus?" (2004)
 - "Jesus the One Mediator between God and Us" (2004)
- 12. "How to Become a Christian Even If You Already Are One" (2008)
- 13. "Incarnation and Redemption" (2006)
- 14. "Intimacy with God" (1992)
- 15. "The Meaning of a Retreat" (1989) "Introduction to Retreat" (n. d.)
- 16. "Original Blessing: The Gift of the True Self" (1989)
- 17. "Reflections on the Shore of Tiberias" (1976)
- 18. "Resurrection" (1964)
- 19. Talk to St. Bernard's Alumni (2000)
- 20. "Siddhartha" (1980)
- 21. "What Does Religion (Church) Have to do with Spirituality?" (2004)
- 22. Lectures given to the Sisters of St. Joseph (ca. 1984)
- 23. Monthly Discussions at the SSJ Motherhouse (2003-2009)
- 24. "The Intercession of the Saints" (2004)
- 25. "Awareness of God's Presence" (Talk at Mercy Prayer Center, 1994)
- 26. "Where is God?" (Talk at St. Louis Church, Pittsford, n. d.)
- 27. "An Age of Seekers" (1994)
- 28. "Prayer of Awareness" (1987)
- 29. "The Presence of God" (n. d.)
- 30. "Conversion Experiences" (n. d.)
- 31. "Religious Language: Analogy, Symbol, Myth" (2005)

Box 37-3-1 Papers, Talks: Theology, Spirituality; War, Peace, Non-Violence; Shannon Chair in Catholic Studies; Women in the Church, Women Religious

- 1. "The Priestly Ministry" (ca. 1971)
 - "Spirituality of the Diocesan Priest" (1998)
- 2. "Spirituality: The Way to Wholeness" (1996)
- 3. "Talking about God: Is It Possible?" (2008)
- 4. "What Do We Know about the Holy Spirit?" (2006)
- 5. "The Word in Promise: The Old Testament" (1963)
- 6. "Why Did God Become Human?" (2008)
- 7. "The Story of Icons: Faith in Color and Prayer on Wood" (1988)
- 8. "A Ball of Rice in His Right Hand" (1983, 1984)
 - "The Power of Non-Violence" (1983)
 - "Peace in the World" (1983)
 - "The New Moment" (1984)
 - "Just War and Non-Violence" (1985)
 - "Merton's 70th Birthday and the Task of Peace" (1985)
 - "Non-Violence" (1992)
 - "Way of Non-Violence" (1992)
- 9. "Reflections on Non-Violence after September 11, 2001"
 - "The Catholic Church and Peacemaking" (2002)
 - "Afghanistan, War, and Non-Violence" (2002)
 - "Peace and Human Solidarity" (2003)
 - "Principles That Underlie Non-Violence" (n. d.)
 - "Is Non-Violence a Viable Alternative?" (n. d.)
 - "The Theory of the Just War" (n. d.)
 - "The Non-Violent Alternative" (n. d.)
 - "Principles and Tactics of Non-Violence" (n. d.)
- 10. Seminar on Non-Violence (Nazareth College, 1985)
- 11. "My Long Road to a Global Ethic" (2004 Shannon Chair lecture by Hans Kung)
- 12. Shannon Chair in Catholic Studies event flyers
- 13. "The Spirit of John Peter Medaille, S. J." (1953)
 - "The Great Story" [Nazareth College] (1991)
 - "To the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester: End of Century Tribute" (1999)
- 14. "Women and Priesthood" (1993)
 - "The Church and the Ordination of Women" (2010)
 - "Papal Documents on the Ordination of Women" (n. d.)

SERIES 3: RESEARCH FILES

Box 37-3-2 Research: Church, Papacy, Vatican II

- 1. Christians and Jews in Dialogue
- 2. Church Documents / Church Identity
- 3. Curran Case (newspaper articles, 1986)
- 4. Ecumenical Movement
- 5. Interreligious Dialogue
- 6. Church Reform
- 7. Vatican II
- 8. Lectio Divina
- 9. Catholic Social Teaching

Box 37-3-3 Research: Death, Hospice, End-of-Life Issues; Moral Issues; Liturgy

- 1. Cremation
- 2. Grief and Loss
- 3. Poems about Death
- 4. End-of-Life Issues
- 5. Hospice Movement
- 6. St. Christopher's Hospice, London

- 7. St. Joseph's Hospice, London
- 8. Living Will, Advance Care Planning
- 9. Preparing for Death
- 10. Terri Shiavo Case
- 11. Conscientious Voting
- 12. Homosexuality
- 13. NCCB Committee on the Liturgy: Newsletters, 1990-1996
- 14. USCCB Committee on Divine Worship: Newsletters, 2003-2007
- 15. USCCB Committee on Divine Worship: Newsletters, 2008-2012
- 16. Liturgy Resources
- 17. "Inaestimabile Domum: A Study" (1980)

Box 37-3-4 Research: St. Paul

- 1. St. Paul: General
- 2. St. Paul: General
- 3. Year of St. Paul
- 4. New Perspective on St. Paul
- 5. Conversion of St. Paul
- 6. Letters of St. Paul
- 7. Paul's Three Journeys
- 8. Paul's Companions
- 9. Women in Paul's Ministry
- 10. Biblical Places
- 11. St. Paul in Art

Box 37-3-5 Research: Scripture; Theology, Spirituality

- 1. Biblical Institute for Priests, Chicago (1960-1965)
- 2. The Psalms
- 3. The Gospels / New Testament
- 4. Introduction to World Religions (course outline, n. d.)
- 5. Buddhism
- 6. Science and Religion
- 7. Schneiders, Sr. Sandra
- 8. De Siano, Frank, "Discipleship: A Little Bit of Heaven" (2006)

Box 37-3-6 Research: War, Peace, Non-Violence

- 1. Non-Violence
- 2. United States Institute of Peace
- 3. Pope John XXIII and the Cuban Missile Crisis
- 4. Persian Gulf War
- 5. Iraq War
- 6. Middle East History
- 7. Military Recruitment
- 8. Bishops' Pastoral on War and Peace

Box 37-3-7 Research: Women in the Church, Women Religious

- NCCB, "A Pastoral Response to Women's Concerns for Church and Society" (Draft of May 1987)
- NCCB, "A Pastoral Response to Women's Concerns for Church and Society" (Draft of October 1987)
- NCCB, "A Pastoral Response to Women's Concerns for Church and Society" (Draft of January 1988)
- NCCB, "A Pastoral Response to Women's Concerns for Church and Society" (Draft of March 1988)
- 5. NCCB, "Called to Be One in Jesus Christ" (ca. 1992)
- 6. Women and Ordination
- 7. Women and Ordination: "Ordinatio Sacerdotalis"
- 8. Apostolic Visitation of US Women Religious (2009)

SERIES 4: THOMAS MERTON

Box 37-3-8 Merton: Reviews

Reviews of Shannon's Work

- 1. "Thomas Merton and Freedom" (1981)
- 2. Silent Lamp (1992)
- 3. Witness to Freedom (1994)
- 4. Thomas Merton's Paradise Journey (2000)
- 5. The Thomas Merton Encyclopedia (2002)
- 6. The Inner Experience (2003)
- 7. Thomas Merton: An Introduction (2005)
- 8. Thomas Merton: A Life in Letters (2008)

Reviews by Shannon

- 9. Thomas Merton: Pilgrim in Process (1983)
- 10. The Seven Mountains / Follow the Ecstasy (1984)
- 11. The Seven Mountains of Thomas Merton (1985)
- 12. Thomas Merton: A Comprehensive Bibliography (1986)
- 13. Brother Monk: The Quest for True Freedom (1987)
- 14. A Vow of Conversation: Journals (1988)
- 15. "Thomas Merton's Three Gifts: A Review Essay" (1989)
- 16. Up and Down Merton's Mountain (1989)
- 17. Merton and Walsh on the Person (1989)
- 18. Thomas Merton as Writer and Monk (1991)
- 19. Living with Wisdom (1991)
- 20. Thomas Merton: Spiritual Master (1992)
- 21. The Courage for Truth (1993)
- 22. No Man is an Island (1995)
- 23. Run to the Mountain (1996)
- 24. Thomas Merton and the Monastic Vision (2000)
- 25. About Merton: Secondary Sources (2003)
- 26. Merton and Hesychasm (2004)
- 27. Peace in the Post-Christian Era (2005)
- 28. Soul Searching: The Journey of Thomas Merton (2007)
- 29. Thomas Merton: Prophet of Renewal (2007)

Box 37-4-1 Merton: Published Articles

- 1. "Thomas Merton and the Discovery of the Real Self" (1978)
- 2. "Thomas Merton and Freedom" (1981)
- 3. "Thomas Merton's First Article on War & Peace" (1985)
- 4. "Thomas Merton and the Quest for Self-Identity" (1987)
- 5. "Thomas Merton and the Living Tradition of Faith" (1988)
- 6. "One Monk, Many Images" (1988)
- 7. "Thomas Merton: Sorting Out the Legacy" (1988)
- 8. "Thomas Merton, " Dictionary of American Biography (1988)
- 9. "The Farmer from Nelson County" (1989)
- 10. "Thomas Merton's Three Gifts: A Review Essay" (1989)
- 11. "The Spirituality of Thomas Merton" (1990)
- 12. "Thomas Merton and Judaism" (1990)
- 13. "Merton's Gift: Contemplation for Action" (1993)
- 14. "Reflections on Thomas Merton's 'Notes for a Philosophy of Solitude" (1994)
- 15. "New Horizons for an Old Journey" (review of "No Man is an Island," 1995)
- 16. "Thomas Merton: Contemplative Spirituality as Lived Wisdom" (1995)
- 17. "Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton: Correspondence on Peace" (1996)
- 18. "Thomas Merton: Something of a Rebel" (1997)
- 19. "Thomas Merton: To Russia with Love" (1997)
- 20. "Can One be a Contemplative in a Technological Society?" (1997)
- 21. "The Seven Storey Mountain: 50 Years Old!" (1998)

- 22. "Thomas Merton," Encyclopedia Americana (2005)
- 23. Preface to Cold War Letters (2006)
 - "The Year of the Cold War Letters" (1988)
- 24. "Already One: Mystical Union and Religious Pluralism" (2008) 25. "The Future of Thomas Merton: A Progress Report" (2008)
- 26. Various articles:
 - "A Letter from William H. Shannon," Merton Seasonal 13.2 (1988)
 - Preface to The Road to Joy (1989)
 - Preface to The School of Charity (1990)
 - "Original Blessing: The Gift of the True Self" (1990)
 - "A Note to the Reader," Seven Storey Mountain (1998 edition)
 - "Unusual Discovery in a Second-Hand Bookstore in England" (1992)
 - "Merton and His Abbot," letter to the editor, The Tablet (Jan. 1999)

Box 37-4-2 Merton: Papers, Talks

- "Thomas Merton and the 1983 Pastoral Letter of the US Bishop" (1983)
 The Rev. Paul E. Dinter, "Merton, Nonviolence and the Bishops' Pastoral on the Eve of 1984"
- 2. "Contemplation in a World of Action" (1985)
- 3. "Thomas Merton and His Friends" (1985)
- 4. Letter to the editor of the National Catholic Reporter (1988)
- 5. "The Many Faces of Thomas Merton" (1988)
- 6. "Merton's Gifts to Us: Contemplation and Non-Violence" (1990)
- 7. "Thomas Merton on Celibacy and Married Priests" (1992)
 "Is Celibacy Absurd? Thomas Merton's Case for a Married Priesthood" (2001, 2003)
- 8. "52nd Anniversary of Merton's Entrance into the Monastery" (ca. 1993)
- 9. "A 'Path' through New Seeds of Contemplation" (1994)
- 10. "Where is the Wisdom We Have Lost in Knowledge?" (1995)
- 11. "Priestly Spirituality: Speaking Out for the Inside" (1996)
- 12. "Thomas Merton in Dialogue with Eastern Religions" (1997)
- 13. "From Faith to Joy: An Interview with William H. Shannon" (2003)
- 14. "Thomas Merton and the Shaping of the American Catholic Peace Movement" (2007) "Thomas Merton and the Reshaping of American Catholic Spirituality" (2007) "Merton and the Task of Peace" (n. d.)
- 15. "Thomas Merton and a New Way of Understanding Prayer" (2012)
- 16. "Return to World" (n. d.)
- 17. "Merton's Involvement in the Peace Movement: Beginnings" (n. d.)
- 18. "Merton's Abbots" (n. d.)
- 19. "Merton and Spirituality" (n. d.)
- 20. "The Crises of a Youth Growing Up to Maturity" (n. d.)

Box 37-4-3 Merton: Correspondence

- 1. Undated
- 2. 1980-1983
- 3. 1984-1985
- 4. 1986-1987
- 5. 1988
- 6. 1989
- 7. 1990
- 8. 1991
- 9. 1992
- 10. 1993

Box 37-4-4 Merton: Correspondence

- 1. 1994-1996
- 2. 1997-1999
- 3. 2004-2007
- 4. Allchin, Canon A. M.

- 5. Aziz, Abdul
- 6. Cooper, David
- 7. Daggy, Robert (1979-1984)
- 8. Daggy, Robert (1985-1998)
- 9. Dinter, Rev. Paul
- 10. Douglass, James
- 11. Ferry, W. H. (Ping)

Box 37-4-5 Merton: Correspondence

- 1. Forest, James and Nancy
- 2. Giroux, Robert
- 3. Goss-Mayr, Hildegard, and Goss, Jean
- 4. Grayston, Donald
- 5. Griffin, John Howard
- 6. Gullick, Etta
- 7. Hart, Brother Patrick (1978-1985)
- 8. Hart, Brother Patrick (1986-1992)
- 9. Hebblethwaite, Peter
- 10. Laughlin, James
- 11. Lentfoehr, Sister Therese
- 12. Lim, Sister Aimee

Box 37-4-6 Merton: Correspondence

- 1. McCormick, Anne
- 2. Mott, Michael
- 3. Newton, Arline (1982-1984)
- 4. Newton, Arline (1985-1996)
- 5. Orsini, Jane
- 6. Plank, Karl
- 7. Rosenthal, Peggy, and Dardess, George
- 8. Rush, Molly
- 9. Stanley, John
- 10. Steindl-Rast, Brother David
- 11. Stone, Naomi Burton
- 12. Stoodley, Barbara Cliff
- 13. Tobin, Sister Mary Luke
- 14. Sister M. Cecile (Kitchener, Ont.)
- 15. Sister Therese Mary, SSND (Japan)

Box 37-4-7 Merton: Resources

- 1. Abdelnour, "Le Point Vierge in Thomas Merton" (1971)
- 2. Allchin: Various articles, lectures, sermons
- 3. Bamberger, "Contemplation and the Modern World" (1989)
- 4. Burton-Christie, "Rediscovering Love's World" (1989)
- 5. Chura, "Gethsemani's Obedient Prophet" (1993)
- 6. Daggy, "A Man of the Whole Hemisphere" (n. d.)
- 7. Laughlin, James: Biographical information
- 8. Lotz, "Thomas Merton and Technology" (2008)
- 9. McDonnell, "An Interview with Thomas Merton" (1968)
- 10. Mangrum, "Why Thoughts in Solitude Should Matter More" (2005)
- 11. Mason, "Massignon and Merton" (n. d.)
- 12. Montaldo, "Loving Winter When the Plant Says Nothing" (1998)
- 13. Nugent, "Dear Sister Therese" (2010)
- 14. Talbott, "The Jesus Lama: Thomas Merton in the Himalayas" (1992)
- 15. Thurston, "Epiphany and Eden" (n. d.)
- 16. Whelan, "Thomas Merton: Exploring His Thought and Spirit" (2004)

Box 37-4-8 Merton: Resources

- 1. International Thomas Merton Society
- 2. Merton Pax Christi Society
- 3. Russian Thomas Merton Society
- 4. Events
- 5. Marketing material, flyers
- 6. The Inner Experience: Publication information (2000-2006)
- 7. The Inner Experience: Background essay (ca. 2003)
- 8. The Inner Experience: Rev. Daniel C. Walsh (correspondence)
- 9. Peace in the Post Christian Era (1998-2004)
- 10. Walter H. Capps, Preview of the Asian Journey: Thomas Merton at the Center (n. d.)
- 11. Seasons of Celebration (2008)
- 12. Witness to Freedom: The Letters of Thomas Merton, vol. 5 (1994-1995)
- 13. Burns, Dom Flavian, "Homily for the Funeral of Dom James Fox" (1987)
- 14. Stewart, Bruce, "Me and My Shadow" (play script, n. d.)
- 15. Ritz, Joseph P., "Trappists" (play script, 1993)
- 16. Rice, Edward, "The Seven Storey World of Thomas Merton (radio script, 1966)
- 17. Crean, Robert, "The Prison Meditations of Father Delp" (TV script, 1963)
- 18. Hartman, Jan, "The Silent Singer" (CBS News broadcast, 1969)
- 19. Transcription of the Meeting of the Merton Advisory Board (regarding Merton television documentary, 1983)
- 20. Songs (Merton's words set to music)
- 21. Hagia Sophia

SERIES 5: PUBLISHED WORK OF WILLIAM H. SHANNON

Box 37-5-1 Articles by William H. Shannon

- 1. "The Council, the Liturgy and Christian Formation" (1965)
- 2. "Christian Conscience" (1967)
- 3. "The Christian and the Law" (1968)
- 4. "Perspective on Sin" (1977)
- "Word Out of Silence" (1977)
- 6. "The Uniqueness of Christian Morality" (1978)
- 7. "Contemplation and the Sacraments" (1978)
- 8. "Lent: The Sacrament of Conversion and Reconciliation" (1980)
- 9. "Dissent: A New Charism in the Church?" (1986)
- "Open Letter to Archbishop John R. Quinn" (1987)
 "A Response to Archbishop Quinn" (1988)
- 11. "God Is Not Elected But People Are" (1987)
- 12. "The Bishops' Pastoral on Women" (1988)
- 13. "Suggestions from Msgr. William H. Shannon" (reading recommendations,1990) "Spirituality" (review of 5 books) (1995)
- 14. "Are There Any More Priests Out There?" (1991)
- 15. "Christian Conscience and Modern Warfare" (1992)
- 16. "The Catechism of the Catholic Church" (1993)
- 17. "Exploring the New Catechism" (1993)
- 18. "Living in the Presence of God" (1993-1994)
- 19. "No Circuit-Rider Priests, Please" (1994)
- 20. "Eucharistic Revolutions" (1995)
- 21. "Tradition and the Ordination of Women" (1996)
- 22. "The Eucharist in a Grace-filled World" (1997)
- 23. "Liturgy and Life" (1998)

Box 37-5-2 Articles by William H. Shannon

- 1. "Eucharist: Understanding Christ's Body" (1998)
- 2. "Advent: Preparing for the Great Jubilee" (1999)
- 3. "With You I Am a Christian" (1999)

- 4. "The Resurrection: How We Know It's True" (2000)
- 5. "The Future of the Papacy" (2000)
- 6. "How the Spirit Guides the Church" (2001)
- 7. "The Church of the Future" (2000)
- 8. "An Open Letter to the Bishops of the United States" (2003)
- 9. "Who Am I to Stand in God's Way? Reflections on Optional Celibacy" (2003)
- 10. "The Liturgy of the Eucharist" (2003)
- 11. "The Holy Spirit in the Church" (2004)
- 12. "Today's Church: A Look in the Mirror" (2004)
- 13. "Our Church: Called to be a Sign of Joy and Hope" (2004)
- 14. "What Did Jesus Mean?" (2005)
 - "Finding God's Kingdom
 - "Can We Love Our Enemies?"
 - "Winning, Losing for Jesus"
 - "How to Really Forgive"
- 15. "Communion of Saints: Key to the Eucharist" (2005)
- 16. "The Role of the Priest" (2005)
- 17. "Seven Shifts in the Church" (2005)
 - "Conciliar Movers and Shakers" (2005)
- 18. "Three Saints Who Changed the Church" (2007)
- 19. Reviews by William H. Shannon:
 - Letters to Contemplatives (1991)
 - Gandhi on Christianity (ca. 1991)
 - What Are Theologians Saying Now? (ca. 1992)
 - Bringing Christ into Your Home (ca. 1992)
 - Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home (ca. 1992)
 - The Gospel According to Mary, (ca. 1993)
 - Corrective Vision: Explorations in Moral Theology (1995)
 - Papal Sin: Structures of Deceit, (2000)
 - Love's Redeeming Work: The Anglican Quest for Holiness (2004)
 - Four Cultures of the West (2005)

Box 37-5-3 Publications, Texts

- 1. The Church of Christ: The Church as an Organization (second edition, 1952)
- 2. The Church of Christ: The Church as an Organization (third edition, 1954)
- 3. The Veils and the Face: An Approach to Christian Prayer (ch. 1-4, 1986)
- 4. The Veils and the Face: An Approach to Christian Prayer (ch. 5-7, 1986)
- 5. Silence on Fire: The Prayer of Awareness (1991)
- 6. Passion for Peace: The Social Essays (1995)
- 7. Seeds of Peace: Contemplation and Nonviolence (1996)
- 8. Anselm: The Joy of Faith (1999)
- 9. Here on the Way to There: A Catholic Perspective on Dying and What Follows (2005)
- 10. Cloud of Witnesses: Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester Remembered (2006)
- 11. How to Become a Christian Even If You Already Are One (2012)
- 12. Royalties

SERIES 6: HOMILIES

Box 37-5-4 Homilies: Liturgical Years 1980-1981 through 1999-2000

- 1. Liturgical Year 1980-1981
- 2. Liturgical Year 1981-1982
- 3. Liturgical Year 1982-1983
- 4. Liturgical Year 1983-1984
- 5. Liturgical Year 1984-1985
- 6. Liturgical Year 1985-1986
- 7. Liturgical Year 1986-1987

- 8. Liturgical Year 1987-1988
- 9. Liturgical Year 1988-1989
- 10. Liturgical Year 1989-1990
- 11. Liturgical Year 1990-1991
- 12. Liturgical Year 1991-1992
- 13. Liturgical Year 1992-1993
- 14. Liturgical Year 1993-1994
- 15. Liturgical Year 1994-1995
- 16. Liturgical Year 1994-1995
- 17. Liturgical Year 1996-1997
- 17. Liturgical feat 1990-1997
- 18. Liturgical Year 1997-1998
- 19. Liturgical Year 1998-1999
- 20. Liturgical Year 1999-2000

Box 37-5-5 Homilies: Liturgical Years 2000-2001 through 2011-2012

- 1. Liturgical Year 2000-2001
- 2. Liturgical Year 2001-2002
- 3. Liturgical Year 2002-2003
- 4. Liturgical Year 2003-2004
- 5. Liturgical Year 2004-2005
- 6. Liturgical Year 2005-2006
- 7. Liturgical Year 2006-2007
- 8. Liturgical Year 2007-2008
- 9. Liturgical Year 2008-2009
- 10. Liturgical Year 2009-2010
- 11. Liturgical Year 2010-2011
- 12. Liturgical Year 2011-2012

Box 37-5-6 Homilies: Liturgical Year, Feast Days, Secular Holidays

- Advent
- 2. Advent Service of Reconciliation
- 3. Ash Wednesday
- 4. Lent
- 5. Lenten Service of Reconciliation
- 6. Feast of the Transfiguration
- 7. Feast of the Ascension
- 8. Feast of the Sacred Heart
- 9. All Saints Day
- 10. All Souls Day
- 11. Immaculate Conception
- 12. Birth of Mary
- 13. Annunciation
- 14. Visitation
- 15. Assumption
- 16. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
- 17. St. Joseph
- 18. St. John Fisher
- 19. SS. Peter and Paul
- 20. St. Theresa of the Child Jesus
- 21. Memorial Day
- 22. Fourth of July
- 23. Labor Day
- 24. Thanksgiving
- 25. Other Topics: Purgatory; Remembering

Box 37-5-7 Homilies: Events

- 1. Congregational Jubilees: Sisters of St. Joseph
- 2. Jubilees: Individual Sisters

- 3. Jubilees: Groups of Sisters
- 4. Anniversaries of Ordination: Shannon, Other Priests
- 5. Weddings, Anniversaries
- 6. Other Events
- 7. Funerals: B-C
- 8. Funerals: D-F
- Funerals: G-H
- 10. Funerals: K-L
- 11. Funerals: M
- 12. Funerals: N-S
- 13. Funerals: T-W

SERIES 7: BOOKS

Box 38-1-1 Books by William H. Shannon

- 1. Outlines of Sacred Theology (1954)
- 2. The Church of Christ (1959)
- 3. The Lively Debate: Response to Humanae Vitae (1970)
- 4. Seeking the Face of God (1988)
- 5. Silence on Fire: The Prayer of Awareness (1991)
- 6. Silencio en Llamas (Spanish translation of Silence on Fire)
- 7. Korean translation of Silence on Fire
- 8. Exploring the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1995)
- 9. Seeds of Peace: Contemplation and Non-Violence (1996)
- 10. Anselm: The Joy of Faith (1999)
- 11. Here on the Way to There: A Catholic Perspective on Dying and What Follows (2005)
- 12. Cloud of Witnesses: Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester Remembered (2006)
- 13. Cloud of Witnesses: Supplement (2008)
- 14. How to Become a Christian Even If You Already Are One (2012)

Box 38-1-2 Books about Thomas Merton written/edited by William H. Shannon

- 1. Thomas Merton's Dark Path: The Inner Experience of a Contemplative (1981)
- 2. The Hidden Ground of Love: The Letters of Thomas Merton (1985)
- 3. Silent Lamp: The Thomas Merton Story (1992)
- 4. Thomas Merton, Witness to Freedom: Letters in Times of Crisis (1994)
- 5. Passion for Peace: The Social Essays (1995)
- 6. Something of a Rebel: Thomas Merton, His Life and Work (1997)
- 7. Korean translation of Something of a Rebel
- 8. Thomas Merton's Paradise Journey: Writings on Contemplation (2000)

Box 38-1-3 Books about Thomas Merton by Shannon and Others

- 1. Shannon, Bochen, O'Connell, The Thomas Merton Encyclopedia (2002)
- 2. Shannon, ed., The Inner Experience: Notes on Contemplation (2003)
- 3. Shannon, Thomas Merton: An Introduction (2005)
- 4. Shannon, Bochen, Thomas Merton: A Life in Letters (2008)
- 5. Kramer, Thomas Merton: Monk and Artist (1984)
- 6. Mott. The Seven Mountains of Thomas Merton (1984)
- 7. Kountz, Thomas Merton as Writer and Monk (1991)
- 8. Bochen, Thomas Merton: The Courage for Truth (1993)

Box 38-1-4 Shannon / Merton Resources

- 1. Burton, William H. Shannon: The Complete Bibliography (2010)
- 2. Burton, Index to the Published Letters of Thomas Merton (1996)
- 3. Burton, More than Silence: A Bibliography of Thomas Merton (2007)