Br. Roger Shondel, OP Interview

00:02 - Fr. Cornelius Hahn, OP (Interviewer)

Where have you seen the brothers come in the past 16 years?

00:14 - Br. Roger Shondel, OP

From what point to where we are now?

00:17 - Fr. Cornelius Hahn, OP (Interviewer)

Right. What's the evolution?

00:19 - Br. Roger Shondel, OP

Okay. Well, I entered during the period when it was still very strict categories insofar as the brothers were mainly involved in the menial tasks. within the various houses, anywhere from cleaning toilets to washing clothes, doing dishes, which was great at that time. But the process of evolution was desperately needed in order to save vocations.

00:50 - Fr. Cornelius Hahn, OP (Interviewer)

Where do you see the brothers' vocation going in the future?

00:55 - Br. Roger Shondel, OP

I see it going in the direction of a more professional body of people, you know, whether it be in, uh, you know. I think even the people that are involved in what we used to define as menial tasks, I think even those menial tasks, which is no longer the word to be used. But like paraprofessional areas will also need, uh, educational background, like for example, if someone's going to be working in an office, you know? Possibly they may have to take accounting courses or what have you.

You have to today. Right, typing skills. Right, definitely. Engineers. Anything to... We should never be satisfied just with the minimum, with the minimal amount of talents.

01:44

We should always try to enhance our talents. And if it means further education, I think it's necessary. Definitely.

01:54 - Fr. Cornelius Hahn, OP (Interviewer)

Who are some of the people you remember? Who would be someone that might have had an influence in your life?

02:00 - Br. Roger Shondel, OP

Within the Order? Giles, Brother Giles. He's dead. Wachowski, right?

A very typical example of a person that was not educated as we know it, you know, degreed or what have you, but really intelligent. I think he had a lot of influence. I think he was a holy man in his own special way. other people that have had a good impression on me. Tim Curry, even though I haven't seen him since the days of the studium, he always impressed me as a very holy person. You know, some of that, you know, when I was a young religious, I would look to and say, God, if I could only be like this.

I haven't seen him in how long? 14 years, but anyway, I hear he's doing good things.

02:49

Joel Confiel has been a very good influence on me. Franny Shaw, Dennis Zuzy, and Louis Crager.

03:03 - Fr. Cornelius Hahn, OP (Interviewer)

What do you remember of some of the older men in the province, even people who were dead? Do you remember any stories about them?

03:10 - Br. Roger Shondel, OP

Yeah, Father, the one that was up at Winona, Lawler. Daddy. Daddy Lawler. Yeah, he died just before I entered the Order. And I heard that he's the kind of person that, you know, even He would show no discrimination whatsoever. Everyone would be equal,

brothers, novices, fathers, students, what have you. He'd treat everyone equal, and I liked that at the time. Was there really that type of person that could treat everyone equal and still retain his sense of Dominicanism? And he certainly did, from what I hear.

And other people would be Moncton.

I heard a lot about him, cut down. right after ordination, the fact that he was so tall. Hum Cain, of course, I lived during him, and there's many stories about him. And Father Farrell, many stories about him, his very religious man, very holy man, and many people feel so they should start proceedings for him, right?

04:13

Of course, Ray Nogar.

Ray Nogar and Hum Crilly.

And Brother Glenn, I forget what his last name was, but he was a cooperator brother. He was just simply professed. He left, and he died of cancer. And then they buried him. He made solemn profession on his deathbed and was buried in Winona. Because I knew him, he was like a couple years after me. So that made an impression on me, too. You know, you hear so much about this, you know, making solemn vows on your deathbed. Well, this was an actual case where it happened, and I thought it was kind of interesting at that time.

And of course, Father... Pat Gaynor, I lived with him in Winona. Really something. And Father Goggins, who is, I thought, just a wonderful, wonderful man who was very misunderstood in the province. Very misunderstood. And probably one of my favorite people that I've ever lived with in the province is Vincent Bryce.

05:14

One of my favorite, probably one of the kindest people you ever want to meet. He's industrious, over-industrious, and just made a very good impression on me.

05:29 - Fr. Cornelius Hahn, OP (Interviewer)

If you had one minute to say something to the province at large, to everybody, what would you tell them?

05:39 - Br. Roger Shondel, OP

Don't be so damn discriminating against brothers still.