

Things vs. Encounters

For many
grace is a thing;
it is, however,
an encounter.

A thing is cut off,
apart from others;
an encounter is a joining,
a melding with another.

A thing exists
in solitary isolation;
an encounter is forged
in mutual interaction.

Examining things,
we look for causes;
exploring encounters,
we look at dynamics.

About things
we ask: "What?"
concerning encounters
we inquire: "Who?"

Sacraments tend to be
thought of as things.
They should, however,
be considered encounters.

So, too, with love:
it is not
" a many splendored
thing."
It is, rather,
a splendid
encounter.

