

Icons vs. Idols

Idols and icons:
both are images;
but an idol leads
to itself,
whereas an icon
beckons beyond.

Idols are opaque
and dense;
icons are translucent
and dynamic.
Icons offer
an interpretation;
idols present
an interference.

An icon is a
stairway
to an upper room;
an idol is a
slippery slide
to the basement.

An icon is a
window
to the divine;
an idol is a
wall
keeping you out.

You pray
before an icon;
but bargain
with an idol.

You can't see
past an idol;
an icon leads
to further vision.
You can't walk
past an idol;
an icon helps
with your journey.

The objects of our
desires
can easily become
idols;
the purity of our
intentions
is protected by
icons.

Sometimes our
cherished notions
become idols;
true belief
is an icon.

Some of our tasks
and relationships are
idols;
you'd fare better
if they were
icons

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Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com
www.fatherwaltersparish.org