

the conference from which I have been quoting, it took Thomas Hopko (from St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary) to remind Cardinal Ratzinger (what no doubt he already knew, but had not specified) that the 'hermeneutical key [to biblical exegesis] is liturgy' (p.118—ed. Neuhaus, *ibid*). As in the CDF document, there is a real (and necessary?) tension between liturgically generated method and the importance of apologetics—the latter causes Ratzinger to immediately qualify his agreement with Hopko—p.118.

- 37 Decree on Priestly Formation, para.16. Cardinal Ratzinger also makes the point well: 'I am against the reduction of orthodoxy to orthopraxy, but without concrete Christian action, biblical interpretation will be found wanting...' in ed. Neuhaus, p.188. I would suggest that the present pope's encyclicals are one possible model of this re-marriage between ethics and biblical scholarship, as also found in the work of John Howard Yoder.

## **Anchorite Aloft Polyphonically**

A recluse who leads a varied  
social life. Of interest. Given  
opportunity. With work and money.

Not so much inviting people  
home. Except impulsively.  
Without formality. Except

of course people who do not  
count: models, students  
neighbours' children, servants'

families and friends. Preferring  
café life, bars, meeting continued  
from the street, something

to laugh, talk, drink, eat.  
Facility of coming, interacting,  
leaving. Casual beauty of feeling.

**Michael Kelly**