MARY

By Richard Heath, O.P.

When ships in heavy waters reel
Against the wind and flood,
They image men, what men can feel
In reeling flesh and blood.

But buoys tolling on the swell
Warn ships of subtle reef,
And by their beating ships can tell
A channel of relief.

Men have buoys; other men,
Dead, but who still give
Example, faith; who shout again
To those who, fighting, live.

Dominic, Thomas, Albert, Louis,
Above this roaring sea
Your voices ring her name to us:
Channel of grace is she.