

The Real Thing

By Rev. Andrew P. Carrozza

“What lovely jewels adorn my hair!”
she’d brag with radiant glow.
Upon each finger, ‘round her neck,
a bauble from each beau.
“Jim gave me these marvelous pearls
and Bill this dazzling ring.
From Kevin came this stunning broach
and Mike this lovely...thing!”
But what escaped this poor young child,
what dodged her shallow mind
was that among her treasured jewels
was not one gem to find.
They all were pastes, but costume bling,
from pawn shop bargain bins.
The jewels she thought were signs of love
were phony, worthless sins.
But then one day, quite by surprise,
a true love entered in.
This man adored her, vowed his love,
their new life to begin.
And on her hand he placed a jewel,
a diamond sparkling bright;
a perfect stone, a flawless find,
indeed, a splendid sight.
But she replied, “I can’t wear this!
No, this won’t do at all!
Is this a joke? This tiny thing?
Oh no! It’s way too small!
All my other men gave me
much larger jewels to sport.
I’d feel embarrassed by this stud.
Your gift falls way too short.”
Poor girl! So used to phony gems
this one’s worth came not through.
She spurned a priceless gift of love
and lost a love most true.

Just like this girl, we often cast
a precious gift away.
So used to life’s false pleasantries
that catch our eye each day,
we often cannot see true love
when to us it appears.
And this has been the world’s mistake
the past two thousand years.
The greatest love the world has known
we celebrate today,
When God Himself became a man
to take our sins away.
But we don’t want redemption,
only lotteries to win!
We’d rather He bestow great wealth
than take away our sin.
Yet all our health, our mansions grand
will offer us no gain
when comes the day we face His throne
and seek His heavenly reign.
God died to give us sanctity,
and to our souls restore
the holiness we lost through sin,
to make us pure once more.
Dear friend, let not the world’s fake pearls
lead you away from Christ.
Do not discard His rich love
for a bauble falsely priced.
And so my prayer this Christmas Day
is that God will reveal
His perfect love within your heart
and all your sins to heal.
For this is worth far more to us
than gifts of cash or gold.
His love’s our diamond of great price,
our treasure to behold.
God took our nature as His own
so we might share in His.
To reign with Him in heaven
is God’s greatest gift: His bliss!

