

so the dead now drive
off leaving nothing but
the stencil of their
souls like tyre
tracks in the earth
so crumbly to the touch
that after a while
I cannot
even for love
tell which is which.

ANDREW LANSDOWN

MIRTH WITH MEANING

After the meal, we read
the word of Christ in the Gospel
of Matthew: 'when you fast,
do not look dismal . . .'

What does 'fast' mean? I ask.
My daughter jumps from her chair
and races around the table.
See? I'm fast! she declares.

Who dares laugh? Angels
rollick about the room. I nod
earnestly. There is a smile
on the three Faces of God.