

## To Lois

Lois Cailloux was pretty and smart  
Very adept at ways of the heart  
She devised a reliable plan  
To find for herself a truly good man  
She joined a church, our own CCC  
Not to woo a deacon, moderator, or trustee

“No” she said “I will not stop  
Till I conquer the man at the top”  
Bill Carnahan snapped her picture for the church photo book  
Stunning—she inspired many a long second look  
Jim burned the candle at both ends  
When queried he said “Just very good friends”

He had been known to be quite a cold fish  
He sure came alive when out with this dish  
In this situation one thing was sad  
Seeing them, people thought he was her dad  
Nimble Jim had a ready reply  
“See my little red car, I’m a real sporty guy”

Romance developed with well ordered speed  
For there was much on which they agreed  
Then the Bible Jim loudly smote  
Declaring, “In it the scribes plainly wrote  
In all things a wife must submit and obey”  
Lois replied “That will be the day”

Soon Jim asked “Will you be my wife?”  
“Not if this congregation monitors my life”  
Jim said “Really, they’re not a bad lot  
They won’t check each tittle and jot”  
Lois said “Oh, what the heck  
I’ll agree if you keep them in check”

Then as is usually said  
They were blissfully wed  
He whisked her off to a secret place to adore  
Known to only 100 of us or more  
Lois said “See the beautiful view”  
He said “I must check when my next pledge payment is due”

Later Lois said “Let’s enjoy the setting sun”  
He said “I’ll enthrall you with the musicals I’ve done”  
Returning home, Jim’s face was aglow  
He left the office early — days in a row  
Lois said “Around the house there’s so much to do  
I’ll assign tasks to Jim, not only a few”

He said “That’s not fair to me  
There are so many committees I must oversee  
And must always check the congregation’s mood  
I can’t be expected to help prepare food”  
She said “Your music collection takes up space  
I’ll take care of that without leaving a trace

Now as to the matter of that strong cigar  
If smoked at all—it will be from afar”  
They had a little spat that went on and on  
Till they stopped and said “Henkelman-Bahn”  
One thing not generally known  
She prepared sermons he used as his own

And it is said she even went so far  
As to teach him how to play the guitar  
They danced the tango to the best music in the land  
The famed Chuck O’Connor and his 40’s Big Band  
On a trip overseas to the Taj Mahal  
Lois was radiant—Jim cast a pall

They taught couples before it’s too late  
A novel idea—to communicate  
She taught him things not found in Mark  
On a trip to Brazil and a Carnival lark  
Now when we go to Jim for advice  
He says “Wait till Lois rolls the dice”

Tonight we will have fun with both of them  
I assure you that she is a gem  
Wife, mother, confidant, volunteer  
Highly successful in her professional career  
So here’s a toast to Lois, with face like a flower  
Compared to Jim’s, so stern and so dour