

Trappist Monk (1915-1968)

By **Maryanne Hannan**

Truth, in the end, proves a worthy pursuit,
However false, when bound by blind
Orthodoxy. My conscience tested, even in the
Monastery, insidious materialism, personal
Ambition. Freedom, wrestled in long-sought
Solitude, those attachments, suffering to one end:

My loneliness is God's loneliness. Shared
Emptiness strips my false self,
Rooting compassion deeper than the
Temporal. This, my truth, might not be yours.
Only God knows – But the way of
Negation fills me to the brim.



Maryanne Hannan

Maryanne Hannan has published poems in *Christianity and Literature*, *Cresset*, *Anglican Theological Review*, *Christian Century* and *Spiritus*. A former Latin teacher, she lives in upstate New York. Her website is www.mhannan.com.