SUSAN MCCASLIN

AN INNOVATION TO GOD
THE MOTHER

(To St. Julian of Norwich)

Bless us

God the holocaust mother
God the harried housekeeping mother
God the multi-tasking mother
God the dogged and determined mother
God the mother sleeping fitfully in boxcars
God the roughed up mother
God the mother of anorexic girls
God the singed mother of furnaces
God the mother subsisting on beans
God the mother typing God knows
God the poet mother
God the engineer mother
God the weeping mother
God the fatigued mother
God the wild and sequined mother
God the sweet mother napping
God the crosswise mother dancing
God the resurrected mother singing opera
God the Christly mother
God the born again mother in the stable of suburbia
God the Messiah mother
God the long-awaited mother of messiahs
God the mother speaking Kaddish for her mother
God the babbling, pellucid grandmother
God the engineer mother
God the foreshortened mother
God the motherless mother
God the untamed hyena mother
God the designing mother of looms and tapestries
God the intertidal mother with anemones and starfish in her hair
God the lioness mother in her pride

Bless us
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Susan McCaslin is a poet and Instructor of English at Douglas College in New Westminster, B.C. She is the author of eight volumes of poetry.