

Ash Wednesday: The morning after

by [Marjorie Maddox](#) in the [February 14, 2018](#) issue

All morning, I return
to the poem, to the word's ash,
the self smoldering, and the slow burn
of mourning. I return
with sacred words that turn
night's bloody gash
into morning. O, self, return
to his poem: the ash
of the world rising
with returning words:
mourning and morning.