

Praying

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeks in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones; just
pay attention, then patch

a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest by the doorway

into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.

-Mary Oliver

from the 2005 collection, Thirst

written after the death of her partner, Molly Malone Cook