

IRISH FEST  
JULY 27, 2014

THE WORD FOR THE WEEK  
IS TREASURE

It all depends what you're  
looking for . . .

The teenager lost a contact  
lens while playing basketball in  
the driveway.

After a brief, fruitless search,  
he gave up. But his mother  
took up the cause and within  
minutes found the lens.

"How did you do that?" he  
asked.

"We weren't looking for the  
same thing," she explained.  
"You were looking for a small  
piece of plastic. I was looking  
for \$300."

All three of Jesus' parables in  
today's Gospel are about  
seeking - and the hard work

required if we are to possess  
the "treasure" we discover.

In the end,  
the easy is not usually worth  
the time;

the cheap eventually reveals its  
real worth.

But that which is of real value,  
that which gives our lives  
purpose and meaning, requires  
commitment, humility and  
sacrifice.

The search for the Gospel  
"treasure" and "pearl" begins  
with understanding,

first, the real value of what we  
are searching for and the  
investment of time and energy  
required.

Sometimes we are surprised at  
the "treasure" we take for  
granted, the "pearl" in our midst  
that we overlook - and at other  
times the "treasure" we gave  
our all to obtain left us

impoverished, the "pearl" we moved heaven and earth to possess cost us dearly.

As Solomon understood in asking the Lord for wisdom and "an understanding heart" (Reading 1), the "treasures" and "pearls" of lasting value are the things of God:

the love of family and friends,

the support found in being part of a community,

the sense of joy and fulfillment found in serving and giving for the sake of others

The parables Jesus tells into today's Gospel challenge us in the same way to engage our attention on the things of God and not be caught up with the lesser, transient things of the world.

The "treasures" and "pearls" of God are not found in the things of the earth but in the values of heaven:

love, justice, mercy, peace.

True wisdom begins with tirelessly seeking such treasures that our lives may be enriched by the things of God.

So often we spend our lives looking for the contact lens like the teenager and fail to see the worth of that lens like Mom does so often

*"Stuff you need to Know"  
Some thoughts shared by  
Connections of MediaWorks,  
and of course some by myself  
through the power of the Holy  
Spirit*