

THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Matthew 13:44-52

Have you ever found yourself saying 'that was worth it' after giving up something (time, pleasure, money, etc.)? What was the treasure that made the sacrifice worthwhile?

The 'kingdom of heaven' is when God is really the ruler in our life. What treasures have you obtained when you allow God to be at the centre of your life?

In life we gather a lot of things, some good and some bad. The wise person in the kingdom of heaven knows how to sit down and make decisions on what to keep and what to discard. When have you undertaken that kind of discernment? What have you discarded? What have you retained?

John Byrne osa

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MUSINGS: Hidden Treasure

'A parable leaves you with sufficient doubt about its meaning to tease the mind into active thought.'
C.H. Dodd

Hidden or buried treasure sounds like an adventure story. This is intended by Jesus. Finding the kingdom of God is like an adventure in which there is a treasure that we did not expect to find, that fills us with wonder and tension and drama. Not everyone finds this treasure, which is what makes the story exciting. Jesus could have said that the man dug up the treasure and took what he wanted and left the rest out in the field for others to find easily, but he doesn't.

The man hides the treasure again.

We who find the treasure of the kingdom of God will come to understand (whether immediately or over time), that it is more valuable than all that we have – all that our lives consist of. The treasure of the kingdom of God does not fit nicely or easily into the lives that we have already constructed for ourselves. Treasure stories are all about disrupted lives. One cannot discover hidden treasure and remain the same or continue, in an undisrupted way, to live the life one has always lived. In a sense, the measure of the disruption of our former lives is also a measure of the meaning of the treasure we have found. Some of us, perhaps, have not yet discovered the treasure that is worth exchanging our lives for.

The Parable of the Hidden Treasure – Pete Bauer

THE DEEP END: Treasures and pearls

In the immediate aftermath of the horrific bomb attack in Manchester on 22 May this year, the hashtag #roomformanchester began to trend on social media. In the midst of the chaos and terror, locals were opening up their homes and hearts to anyone who had been affected by the incident and was in need of help. People who lived nearby offered food or a cuppa, a place to charge phones, or a bed for the night. Hotels took in dozens of children and teenagers who had been separated from their parents. Taxi drivers offered free lifts, and others offered to drive those who had been stranded home to surrounding areas. People began to queue up at donor banks to give blood to help those injured in the attack. In the face of an evil and senseless act that inflicted so much pain, kindness and goodness shone through.

Difficult times often bring out the best in people. We see it in the way friends rally around a bereaved family, or communities raise money to help a sick child. There are treasures in our people and our communities that we could never put a price on. Jesus talks today about hidden treasures and fine pearls, and prompts the question – what is most important to us, and what are we willing to sacrifice for it? Sometimes treasures like compassion and love are there for all to see, and other times they are hidden and we have to go in search of them.. The kingdom of God is always close at hand and within each of us.

Triona Doherty, email trionad@gmail.com

THE MILFORD HOSPICE ANNUAL

HARVEST celebrates its 32nd anniversary on Sunday **August 27th** at the University of Limerick. There will be a full programme of activities and entertainment. Donations such as plants, bottles for the bottle stall and homemade cakes along with new items for the Wheel of Fortune will be accepted on the day only. All other goods such as toys, fancy good are being accepted at the Hospice from August 14th. For further information contact 061 485859.

LET'S TALK FAMILY; LET'S BE FAMILY

Following on from the excellent presentation by Cardinal Schonborn on July 13th at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick will launch it's preparations for World Meeting of Families with a **FAMILY FUN DAY IN MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE** on **SUNDAY OCTOBER 8TH**. All welcome (including food stalls, music, sport, film and family fun activities for all generations).

Let's talk Family; let's be Family. Save the date – October 8th

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Will hold their monthly collection on 5th and 6th August at all Masses.

CHANGES TO MASS TIMES

No 5.45pm weekday Mass until Autumn

No Adoration on Mondays or Fridays.

PARISH WEBSITE

www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie

Fr. Des McAuliffe P.P. Tel: 061 324825

Fr. Tom. Ryan C.C. Tel: 087 2997733

Parish Clerk: Margaret Clifford at *Church Sacristy*

Tel: **325288**

Office Hours: 09:00-09:45 Weekdays
09:00-12.30 Sunday

MASS TIMES:

Weekends

Saturday Vigil 18:00

Sunday 10:00; 11:30

Weekdays:

Mon to Fri 10:00

Saturday 09:45

Baptisms:

Saturday 17:00

Sunday 12:15

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 29th	18:00	May Malone (A) Siobhán Treacy (MM)
Sun 30th	10:00 11.30	Lilly McKillican (A) Bernard Griffin (A) Martin Horkin (A)
Mon 31st	10:00	
Tues 1st	10:00	
Wed 2nd	10:00	
Thurs 3rd	10:00	
Fri 4th	10:00	James Lloyd
Sat 5th	09:45 18.00	Pat Hegarty (A)
Sun 6th	10:00 11:30	Dan Hickey (A) Patrick Ryan (1st A)

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