

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

APRIL 1912.

Easter Services, 1912.



THE approach of Easter brings to the minds of Christian people many sacred and solemn events in the earthly life of our Lord. During the week before Easter we commemorate the Last Supper, the Betrayal, the Agony in Gethsemane, the Trial, and the Crucifixion. Each day in that week marks a successive stage in the Suffering and Passion of our Lord. In order to help our people to realize all that these events mean and to assist those amongst us who desire to spend this solemn time in the spirit of worship, a Service will be held in the Parish Church, on each evening of the week (except Saturday) at 8 o'clock, and addresses will be given on special subjects connected with our Lord's Passion as follows:—

Monday, April 1st, "The Garden."
Tuesday, ,, 2nd, "The Upper Room."
Wednesday 3rd, "The High Priest's House."
Thursday, ,, 4th, "The Hall of Judgment."
Good Friday, 11-30 a.m., "Calvary."

8 p.m., "The Sepulchre."

EASTER DAY.

8 a.m., Holy Communion.
11-30 a.m., Morning Prayer, Sermon, and Holy Communion.
3-30 p.m., Children's Service.
7 p.m., Evening Prayer and Sermon.

The offerings at all the Services on Easter Day will be given to the support of the Sunday Schools of the Parish. There are two Morning Schools and seven Afternoon Schools held every Sunday, attended by 700 children. There are nine Superintendents and 60 Teachers in charge of the Schools, which are held in seven centres in the Parish. 450 Books and Prizes were awarded this year to the pupils attending the Morning and Afternoon Schools, of which 400 were given to children who had attended over 40 Sundays during the year 1911. Special Courses of Lessons are taught each Sunday in the Morning and Afternoon, and each Teacher receives outline notes of each Sunday's Lessons. The attendance of the children of the Parish at the Parish Church is encouraged by a special system of Church Attendance Cards.

On the Sunday before Easter, March 31st, a special Sermon on "Missionary Aspects of Holy Communion" will be preached by the Rev. W. O'Connor at evening prayer.

At Morning Prayer on the same day Mr. O'Connor will preach on "The Church in Canada," a subject which ought to be of much interest to those who have relatives in that country.

At the District Services in Drumgor and Tamniferbet on Easter Day special addresses will be given and collections will be made on behalf of the Parish Sunday School. These services are held at 7 o'clock.

Hacknahay Day School.

The Rev. Canon Clarke, M.A., Rector of Killead, Church Education Inspector for the Diocese, visited Hacknahay School on Tuesday, March 5th, and carefully examined the children in all branches of knowledge, both sacred and secular. Inspector Clarke has had a long experience in the examination of Schools in the North of Ireland, and his kindly manner and searching questions revealed a very satisfactory standard of knowledge among the pupils present. The examination extended over three hours. The Rector and the Rev. G. Bloomer were present, and the children were in charge of Miss Dickson, the Principal of the School, who has now been engaged in teaching in the School since it was re-opened in August, 1908. The examination proved that the children have been carefully taught in all branches of knowledge, and the work displayed by some of the more advanced pupils would bear favourable comparison with that of the most efficient of the National Board Schools.

The Lent Services.

The special services held during Lent were well attended, and the special subjects dealt with on Sunday evenings proved very useful. The preachers on Wednesday evenings were the Rev. A. Miller (Clonduff), Rev. A. J. Murray (Belfast), Rev. F. J. Hackett (Kildollah), Rev. J. Bloomer (Stewartstown), and the Rev. Bedell Stanford (Belfast).

Condolence.

We offer sincere sympathy to those families in the Parish who have suffered bereavement during the past month. Jane Mayes, John Malcomson, and William Simpson have passed to their eternal rest. Mrs. Mayes, of Levaghery, had been ailing for a long time, and had suffered much. John Malcomson, of Joseph Street, was also called upon to endure much pain. He had for many years been a worker on the G.N.R., and was much respected.

The death of William Simpson, of Foundry Street, was very sad. He had been engaged at his work up to within a week of his death. The serious illness of his little boy had caused him much anxiety, and possibly made him more susceptible to the illness which proved fatal. He had been up to recently a regular attender at the Men's Bible Class in Edenderry, and was very popular with all who knew him. There is much sympathy with Mrs. Simpson in her double affliction, the illness of her child and the death of her husband at an early age. William Simpson had served 16 years in the Army, both in India and South Africa, and was every inch a soldier.

As we go to press we learn with regret of the death of Ephraim Guy, of Tarson. At an early age he has been called to his eternal rest, regretted by all who knew him.

Rev. W. T. Grey.

The following is an extract from a letter recently received from the Rev. W. T. Grey :—

“ Last month has seen a very interesting development here in connection with the Governmental attitude towards religion. Hitherto the Government has stood aloof from religion, giving to no form of it any official recognition. In the Schools for instance which are practically all under Government no religious teaching of any sort is allowed. Now, however, there are signs that the Government is awakening to the fact that the result of its policy in seeking to do without religion is not satisfactory. A few weeks ago the Vice-Minister for Home Affairs announced that he was about to summon a Conference of the Representatives of Shintoism, Buddhism, and Christianity. The primary intention in holding this Conference is he declares “ to direct attention to religion as a necessary means to the highest spiritual and moral welfare of both the individual and the nation. For a number of years this matter has not been given the importance that properly belongs to it; and the primary purpose of the proposed Conference is to reassert that importance.

At present moral doctrines are inculcated by education alone, but it is impossible to inculcate firmly, fair and upright ideas in the minds of the nation, unless the people are brought into touch with the fundamental conception known as God, Buddha or Heaven, as taught in religions. It is necessary that education and religion should go hand in hand to build up the basis of the national ethics, and it is therefore desirable that a scheme should be devised to bring education and religion into closer relations to enable them to promote the national welfare.”

The proposal to hold this Conference has aroused considerable interest and much criticism in the Japanese Press (though it is officially declared that there is no intention of seeking to unite the adherents of the three religions in one body, even were we to do so a possibility). The Buddhists are strongly opposed to the idea, chiefly, I think, because they consider it gives to Christianity a place as one of the recognised religions of the Japanese people. Altogether the situation is most interesting, and one can only pray that the movement may be guided from Above. I have been appointed to take charge of St. Barnabas Church, Tokyo, and it is a position of exceptional difficulty and responsibility. Remembrances to everyone.”

Items.

The members of Drumgor Unionist Club hope shortly to take part in a Parade Service on a Sunday evening in Drumgor Church Hall. The Club numbers some 70 members.

The Church attendance cards with coloured seals are very popular with our Sunday School children. In Carne Sunday School they are proving very useful

The Rev. W. J. Connor, a native of Seagoe Parish, has recently been appointed Rector of Ailsa Craig in the Diocese of Ontario, Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Wilson kindly entertained the members of the Choir to a Social in Seagoe School on March 1st and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

The sum of £7 18s. 3d. has been sent from the Parish to the South American Missionary Society this year from boxes, cards and Church collections.

“John Barleycorn” was performed by some of our Eskey friends on Thursday, March 7th. It was very interesting and amusing. The proceeds were for a new Orange Hall at Eskey in the Parish of Ardmore.

The Rector would be glad to give a letter of recommendation to any of the Parishioners who may be intending to emigrate. The Church is now so well organised in all parts of the world that it is possible no matter where an emigrant goes to, to commend such an one to the pastoral care of the clergyman in charge of the district.

We are glad to hear that George Cartmill, of Edenderry, is rapidly recovering after his serious illness.

On St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, special sermons were preached in Seagoe Church on the Life and Work of the Apostle of Ireland.

Remember the service in the Parish each evening in the week before Easter at 8 o'clock.

The Rev. J. Bloomer, B.A., Curate of Stewartstown, and brother of the Rev. G. Bloomer, B.A., Curate of Seagoe, has just been appointed to the important Curacy of Cookstown (Derryloran).

The first day of the General Synod which meets in Dublin on Tuesday, April 16th is to be devoted to a consideration of the coming Home Rule Bill. The Primate will preside.

A large contingent of Seagoe men will be present at the approaching demonstration against Home Rule in Belfast on Easter Tuesday.

We believe three of the local factories are running on heat owing to the scarcity of coal due to the strike.

Portadown Foundry is forging ahead. It is one of the most progressive firms within the bounds of Seagoe Parish, and is at present engaged in constructing three steel lighters for the Bann trade.

Letter from Mr. Jas. MacKenzie.

St David's Episcopal Church, Delta, Pennsylvania, York Co, U.S.A., 2nd Jan., 1912.

Dear Mr. Archer,—By this time you will be wondering how I am getting along. At present I am in charge of the Parish of St. David. The town of Delta is a great slate mining town, and has a population of almost 3,000. The Church of which I am in charge is not large, but a very unique building. It has 7 beautiful stained glass windows and a mahogany pulpit and communion table. Since my arrival here the congregation has increased considerably, but will take some little time before I get everything to my wish. The week before last I elected a Select Vestry of 6 men and a Ladies' Auxillary, consisting of 10 ladies. By the aid of these committees it will enable me to work things in a thorough Church-like manner. On New Year's eve I held a Watch Night Service. The Church was crowded, and after putting seats up the aisles a number of people had to remain standing. Previous to my coming here I lived with the Bishop, and acted as his Secretary and Chaplain. My times with him were splendid, as it meant a considerable lot of travelling every week. He took me to a great number of parishes, where I preached and took part in special services. It was my duty to carry his pastoral staff, which he authorised me to do. The Bishop of Harrisbury is one of the finest men I ever met. A few weeks ago I went with the Bishop as chaplain to a great convention in the city of Baltimore. There were 6 Bishops present and about 200 clergy. It gave me a fair idea of the American Bishops and clergy, which to my idea are a fine body of men.

Time will not permit me to write any more now, as I am very busy this week, as my committees are meeting, and also I have started a confirmation class.

Remember me to the Drumgor people, and also to the Carbet friends. With every good wish

I am

Yours very faithfully,
JAMES MACKENZIE.

**Parish Register for March.
Baptisms.**

"Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto Babes."

- March 2nd—Sarah Mary, daughter of William James and Sarah Mary Fryers.
- " " Charles James, son of Samuel James and Emma Olivia Hall.
- " " Emily Mayes, daughter of Leonard and Sarah Jane Mayes.
- " " Margaret Anna, daughter of William and Margretta Sherman.

Marriages.

"Heirs together of the Grace of Life."

- March 5th—George Porter, Lower Seagoe, to Evelyn Wilson, Drumnagoan.
- " 12th—Henry Gardiner, Foymore, Parish of Drumcree, to Margaret Montgomery, Levaghery.

Burials.

"The Master is come and calleth for thee."

- March 11th—Jane Mayes, Levaghery, aged 84 years.
- " 12th—John Malcolmson, Edenderry, aged 61 years.
- " 19th—William Simpson, Edenderry, aged 43 years.
- " 29th—Ephraim Guy, Tarson, aged 20 years.

Offertories for March.

(Four Sundays.)

"My son, give Me thine heart."

Sunday Mornings	£4 13 10
Sunday Evenings	3 10 3
Wednesdays	0 15 8
			£8 19 9

The sum of £1 4s 6d (included above) is given to the Protestant Orphan Society from the Unionist Parade Service on March 24th.

The Easter Vestry.

On Thursday, April 11th, the annual meeting of the General Vestry of Seagoe Parish will be held in Seagoe Parochial School at 8 o'clock. The Registered Vestrymen of the Parish according to the last Revision are 166 in number, and are drawn from all parts of the Parish. We hope to see a large attendance at the meeting. At this meeting the General Vestrymen elect the People's Churchwarden, the Select Vestry, and Sidesmen for the ensuing twelve months. The names of the outgoing Church Officers are:

CHURCHWARDENS.

- Andrew Costello, Rector's.
- Robert Gracey, People's.

SELECT VESTRY.

- 1.—George Calvert.
- 2.—Thos. J. Montgomery.
- 3.—Thos. J. Atkinson.
- 4.—John Montgomery.
- 5.—Chas. J. Collins.
- 6.—Thomas Martin.
- 7.—Thos. Ed. Maginnis.
- 8.—John G. Gracey.
- 9.—W. R. Atkinson.
- 10.—David Rock.
- 11.—Joseph Murray.
- 12.—Joseph Monroe.

SIDESMEN.

- 1.—C. J. Collins.
- 2.—T. R. Reid.
- 3.—J. H. Stevenson.
- 4.—W. R. Bickett.

A meeting of the existing Select Vestry will be held on the same evening as the General Vestry at 7-30 o'clock for the purpose of closing the accounts for the past year.

Congratulations.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Porter and to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gardiner on the occasion of their marriage as announced in the Parish Register for this month. Mrs. George Porter (Miss Eva Wilson) has been for a long time a member of Seagoe Choir, and has also acted as a Sunday School Teacher in Seagoe Morning Sunday School. Mr. Porter has had great experience as a traveller, having been in many parts of the world. Five years ago when 16 years of age he left Seagoe for North Queensland, and resided there for three years. A year ago he returned to Seagoe, and almost immediately started off to Arizona, U.S.A., to see his father, Mr. David Porter. Returning a few weeks later to Seagoe he took up his residence amongst us again, and has now on the occasion of his marriage started off again with Mrs. Porter to North Queensland. The bride and bridegroom left Seagoe on last Wednesday, 27th inst., on their long journey. We wish them all happiness and blessing in their new home.

Mrs. Henry Gardiner (Miss Margaret Montgomery) has for long been a useful helper in the Parish. She is a daughter of Mr. John Montgomery, of Levaghery, a highly respected member for many years of Seagoe Select Vestry. Mrs. Gardiner will in future reside in the Parish of Drumcree, at Foymore. We hope often to see Mrs. Gardiner back in the old Parish with which her family has so many connections.

Nature Notes.

April is a very interesting month to observers of nature. It is the month when the swallows, the cuckoo, and the corncrake arrive in our Northern regions. The cuckoo usually arrives here on April 13th, the swallow on April 14th, and the corncrake on April 26th. The first butterflies should be seen about April 4th. We should like to insert in next month's MAGAZINE the names of Parishioners who are the first to notice the new arrivals. A great deal depends on the quarter from which the wind is blowing. A steady wind from the South brings our visitors quickly to our shores. The swallows have in past years been first seen usually in the south end of the Parish near Breagh.

Hymns for April.

"Sing ye praises with understanding."

7th	M.—187	Anthem,	461	357	
	E.—188	Anthem,	631	185	12
14th	M.—189	468	261	44	
	E.—268	310	284	196	26
21st	M.—476	541	464	319	
	E.—39	199	50	42	492
28th	M.—52	198	112	339	
	E.—53	289	466	251	25

Old Seagoe Notes.

Lurgan—the Spade Town.—Perhaps some of our readers can tell us why Lurgan is called "the Spade Town." It has been suggested that in old

days it was famous for the manufacture of that useful implement. The Lurgan spade was evidently a very long one, possibly for cutting turf in the bogs along the shores of the Lough. We gather this from an expression which used to be very common and is still sometimes heard in this neighbourhood. Whenever any one looks gloomy and sullen he is said to have "a face as long as a Lurgan spade."

* *

Schoolmasters of Seagoe 200 years ago.—The first schoolmaster of Seagoe of whom we have any record was John Ward, who, according to the Episcopal Visitations of Dromore, was "to be Licensd Schoolmaster on the Vicar's recommendation" from May 13th, 1735.

On June 2nd, 1736, Jas. Willson was licensd to be Schoolmaster in 1741. Lawrence Maguire and Bryan Campbell were appointed Schoolmasters of Seagoe, and at the Bishop's Visitation in this year it was arranged that an "English" Schoolmaster was to be appointed in each Parish in the Diocese of Dromore, including Seagoe.

* *

Churchwardens of Seagoe (Continued).—

- 1766—Richard Johnston.
Francis Dynes.
- 1767—Henry Waite.
John Robinson.
- 1768—Robert Bradshaw.
Meredith Jones.
- 1769—William Lutton, jun.
John Donalson.
- 1770—Thomas Gardener.
John Buller.
- 1771—William Gilpin.
James M'Murey.
- 1772—William Harrison.
William Hickland.
- 1773—George Shepherd.
John M'Murry.

* *

Pope Innocent VIII and Seagoe.—At one period in the long history of Seagoe the Pope began to take an interest in the internal affairs of the Parish. In the year 1492, on July 11th, Pope Innocent VIII issued a Bull for the union of the three Parishes of Taydagoha (Seagoe), Kylmilan or Killmilcon (Shankhill, Lurgan), and Acadle (Aghalee). The Archdeacon of Dromore and Rector of Seagoe in July, 1492, was Donald or Donatus Maginn. The spelling in the Bull is very incorrect Dromore, e.g., is spelt "Themen." The Bull was first discussed on January 7th, 1492, but not issued until July 11th of that year. The union of the Parishes was never apparently carried into effect, and strange to say the Pope died a few days after he issued the Bull, on July 25th, 1492. If the year 1492 has an interest in local history it has also an interest in European politics as the year of the Conquest of Granada, and in world politics as the year when Columbus set out on his voyages of discovery.