

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

DECEMBER, 1910.

A Happy Christmas!

WE wish all our readers at home and abroad a very Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year. The day on which we, as Christian people, celebrate the Birth of our Lord should be an occasion not merely of social rejoicing but of spiritual thanksgiving and worship. This year Christmas Day falls on Sunday, and we hope to see Seagoe Parish Church filled with devout worshippers.

Many of those who read these words will be far away from the old Parish, but we trust that no matter where they may be, in other parts of the United Kingdom, or in the United States or in Canada, they will not forget the duty of worshipping God in His House of Prayer on Christmas Day, and joining with His people in Holy Communion.

Advent.

The weeks preceding Christmas have always been regarded as a special season for considering the subject of the Second Coming of Christ.

In Seagoe Parish we have arranged for special Preachers at our Wednesday evening Services, and addresses will be given at the Sunday Services on subjects appropriate to the season.

On Advent Sunday, November 27th, the Rector preached at Morning Prayer on the "Signs of the Second Advent," and at Evening Prayer the Rev. W. R. Crichton took as his subject "The Day of Judgment."

Special Preachers—Wednesdays at 8.

November 30th (St. Andrew's Day)—Rev. J. I. Peacocke, B.D., Rector of Bangor.

December 7th—Rev. G. Ingham, B.A., Curate of Lurgan.

December 14th—

December 21st—Rev. F. B. Aldwell, B.A., Curate of Donacloney (Waringstown).

Christmas Day Services.

On Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th, the following Services will be held:—8 a.m., Holy Communion; 11-30 a.m., Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion; 7 p.m., Evening Prayer and Sermon. The special Christmas Anthem, "Emmanuel," will be sung by the Choir on Christmas Day.

On Sunday evening, December 18th (the Sunday before Christmas), a selection of Christmas Carols will be sung by the Choir.

The Collections at the Services on Christmas Day will be in aid of Clothing for the Poor of the Parish.

Forward Temperance Mission.

The Church of Ireland Temperance Society is organising Temperance Missions throughout Ireland. The ten days, December 3-12, have been suggested by the Bishop of this Diocese as a suitable date. Seagoe begins its Mission on Saturday night, Dec. 3rd, by a great open-air Meeting at the Big Lamp (end of Railway Street) at 8 o'clock. Addresses will be given by leading Temperance Advocates. Mr W. H. Wright, Chairman of the Town Council, has kindly consented to take part. During the week following, the subject of Temperance will be brought before all our Bible Classes, and will also form the subject of addresses in the Parish Church.

On Sunday, December 11th, the Rev. Maurice F. Collis, B.D., Rector of Antrim, will preach in the Parish Church on Temperance at Morning and Evening Prayer.

Levaghery Sunday School.

We regret to announce that Miss Atkinson has resigned the post of Superintendent of Levaghery Sunday School, which she had held for the past three years. Miss Atkinson worked indefatigably for the success of the School, and by her efforts greatly increased the efficiency of the School, and also succeeded in placing it in a sound financial condition. The children and teachers will miss her very much.

We are glad to be able to announce that Mr Chas. Collins, Rector's Churchwarden, has kindly undertaken the task of Superintending the School, and we are confident that it will flourish under his capable management. Levaghery School, though not large, comes next to Seagoe Sunday School in the date of its foundation. It was opened so far back as the year 1816, and was built out of the stones that remained after the building of the present Seagoe Church.

Seagoe National School.

Mr. Worsley, H.M. Inspector of Schools, paid a surprise visit to Seagoe School for the annual Examination on Wednesday, November 23rd. By the new regulations no immediate notice is given of the day on which the Inspector is to visit the School, and this adds to the importance of the visit as a test of efficiency.

Mr. Worsley subjected the pupils to a very searching examination in all branches of knowledge. He also inspected the school premises carefully. The result of the Examination was very creditable. In every department the answering of the pupils was very satisfactory. The Reading, Writing, and

Drawing were very highly commended. The Inspector also expressed to the Manager (Rev. J. E. Archer) his admiration of the fine discipline of the School and the nice manners of the children. He also expressed great satisfaction at the various structural improvements made in the school buildings since his previous visit. We congratulate the Principal of the School (Mr S. R. Chambers) and his assistants (Miss Bailey, Mr. McKittrick, and Miss Irwin) on the success of the School.

Items.

A meeting of the Select Vestry will be held on Monday, December 5th. Important business will be discussed.

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A new heating apparatus in the Church is greatly needed. We hope our enterprising Vestry will take the matter in hand without delay.

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The Rev. W. T. Gray is on his way home from Japan. He is returning via Port Arthur and Siberia. He arrives home on December 8th. We hope shortly to see him in Seagoe.

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Seagoe Orange Hall is now open on three evenings of the week as a Reading and Recreation Room for the young men of the District. This is a move in the right direction.

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A new Bible Class for men has been begun on Tuesday evenings in the Orange Hall, Drumgor Lane. It meets at 8 o'clock. The Gospel of St. Mark is the subject of study. The young men of the District are greatly interested in the Class.

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New Stoves have been placed in Seagoe School and in Drumgor Church Hall. They are a great improvement.

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Remember the Parochial Soiree, Thursday evening, December 15th. Tea at 7-30. Tickets 9d each. None under 16 admitted.

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We regret to hear of the serious illness of Mrs. Atkinson, of Lower Seagoe, one of our oldest and most respected Parishioners.

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Mr. Thomas Wilson, of Duneglish, had the misfortune to be run over by a Belfast motor when crossing the Lurgan Road. He had a marvellous escape from death. We are glad to hear that he is recovering from his serious injuries.

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Mr. Joshua Caddell, 34 Logie Street, Govan, Glasgow, has become an annual subscriber to our Magazine.

Have you got your Seagoe Almanac for 1911 yet? If not you should get it at once. It is on sale at Bridge Street Depôt, also at Carne, Carbet, Drumgor, and Hacknahay. Price 1d.

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The Harvest Offerings this year were as follows:—

Seagoe Parish Church	£13 15 1
Hacknahay	...	...	2 15 8
Carne	...	...	2 0 0
Tamnificarbet	...	...	1 7 1
Drumgor	...	...	2 6 0
Total			22 3 10

Parochial Register.

Baptisms.

“I will make a covenant with thee.”

- Nov. 5th—Sarah Ellen, daughter of Leonard and Mary Anne Wilson.
- ” ” —William, son of Thomas and Anne Jane Neill.
- ” ” —Margaretta, daughter of James and Alice Jane Craig.
- ” ” —Joseph Henry, son of Thomas and Letitia McNulty.
- ” ” —Elizabeth, daughter of Arthur and Sarah Anne Allen.
- ” 26th—Terence Fitzroy, son of William Stewart Ward and Eva Mary Lucy St. John Blacker.

Marriage.

“They twain shall be one flesh.”

- Nov. 22nd—David McCabe, Ballynacor, to Elizabeth Jane Hughes, Tarson.

Burials.

“Till He come;”

- Nov. 3rd—Mary C. Calvert, Ballymacrandle, aged 15 months.
- ” 23rd—Joseph Coulter, Ballynary, aged 6 mths.
- ” 29th—Alice Johnston, Levaghery, aged 56 yrs.

Offertories during November.

“Lay not up for yourselves treasure upon earth.”

	Morning.	Evening.
Nov. 6th—24th S. aft. Trinity	£1 6 10	£0 8 7
” 13th—25th S. aft. ”	1 5 1	0 8 6
” 20th—S. next before Advent	3 16 8	0 14 6
” 27th—1st S. in Advent Week-Days	0 18 5	0 7 9
		0 10 4
Total,	£7 7 0	£2 9 8

Important.

The collection for the Sustentation Fund is now being made throughout the Parish. The Rectory Purchase Scheme comes into existence this year. We hope, if possible, to double the amount formerly collected. Many have already greatly increased their subscriptions, and we hope all will try to do so. It would be a great help to the collectors if all subscribers to the Fund would have their subscriptions ready when the collectors call. The collectors devote a great deal of time and attention to the work of the Sustentation Fund, and we should all try to make their task as easy and pleasant as possible.

Pupils' Concert.

A splendid Concert by the pupils of Seagoe School was given in the Parochial Schools on Thursday, November 24th. The chair was taken by the Rector at 7-30. There was a large attendance of the parents and friends of the children. A most interesting programme had been arranged, consisting of Action Songs, Dialogues, Recitation, and Drill of various kinds. Each item was very well executed, and called forth loud applause. Even the tiniest children seemed incapable of making a mistake. The whole proceedings reflected the greatest credit on Mr S. R. Chambers, the Principal of the School, who worked indefatigably to make the Concert a success. The proceeds were devoted towards the expenses incurred in painting and decorating the School. The intelligence displayed by the children in their various parts is a proof of the excellency of the educational methods adopted in the School.

Parochial Soiree,

Thursday, December 15th, 1910.

On Thursday, December 15th, a Parochial Soiree will be held in Seagoe Schools. Tea will be on the tables at 7-30 p.m., and a Programme of Music and Recitations, interspersed with speeches, will follow. The price of the Tickets will be 9d each. No one under 16 will be admitted. This social gathering will be a good opportunity for mutual intercourse between the various parts of this extensive Parish. It is most important that the members of the Church should not merely worship together in the Church on Sunday, but that from time to time they should try to realise the fraternal unity and social friendliness which should always exist in every Christian community.

Our Christmas Social gathering ought to accomplish this. We anticipate a very pleasant reunion, and we specially invite the heads of families to be present on this occasion.

New Sunday School Calendar.

The new Calendar is now ready. It is nicely printed, and contains the Catechism portions in full.

Teachers can get a Book of Notes for the Morning Lessons from the Rector. The net published price is 2/-, but it will be issued to the Teachers at 1/-.

The Afternoon Course is based on the Teachers' notes in the Sunday School Magazine, which the Teachers receive every month, price 1d. Our Teachers should read each month the most interesting articles on Sunday School work published in that Magazine.

The Infant Sunday Schools study the Creed, Lord's Prayer, and Ten Commandments, and also the leading events in the Life of our Lord.

It is most important that the Teachers in our Sunday Schools should study the Lessons carefully beforehand, and also be present in their classes some minutes before the hour at which the School begins. Nothing is so prejudicial to the welfare of a Sunday School as to see the Teachers arriving after the opening Prayers have been said.

The new Church Attendance Stamp Album is very pretty, and has greatly interested our young people. The stamps are beautifully coloured and the stamp represents the subject of the Gospel for each Sunday. The stamp is only given when the child has been present at Church at least twice during the week.

Old Seagoe Notes.

The Cloch-Bann. The Cloch-Bann means the "Sacred Bell" and it is the name traditionally assigned to the Old Bell of Seagoe which is one of the treasures of the collection of Irish Antiquities in the National Museum in Kildare Street, Dublin. The bell dates from about A.D. 916, and bears an inscription in rude Irish characters. It is in good preservation although cracked in two places. It was apparently an old Tribal bell belonging to one of the Tribes which roamed through Seagoe and its neighbourhood in the long past days. In more recent times it was rung in front of Funerals in Seagoe graveyard. Sixty years ago it was purchased by Archdeacon Saurin from the Hennon family in whose custody it had been. He handed it over to Dean Dawson, the then Dean of St. Patrick's Dublin, and a great Antiquarian, who in his turn consigned it to the care of the Royal Irish Academy in whose collection it now is.

The Rector has recently obtained permission from the Council of the Academy to have the Bell photographed, and we hope to have a reproduction of the photograph on the new cover of this Magazine for 1911. The people of Seagoe will thus have an opportunity of seeing a print of this most interesting local relic.

Seagoe to Dublin by Coach, 1706.—The single fare from Seagoe to Dublin by Coach in the year 1706, that is 200 years ago, was 12/6. Of course money was then worth much more than now. It would be equal to about £1 in our present money. When the Bell in Seagoe Church got out of repair in 1706, the Vestry met together on Easter Tuesday, March 26th of that year, and decided to send it up to Dublin, and the fare paid by the man who brought it up was 12/6 for each journey.

Townland Pews in Seagoe Church.—The custom of allotting pews in the Parish Church to certain townlands is of considerable antiquity and at times gave rise to friction between Parishioners as is evidenced by the following entries in the Register for 1731—

Whereas William Mathers, late of Drumgor, in Co. of Ardmagh, has purchased one Seate in the Church of Segoe, standing in the frunt of the gallery, from John Mathers, late of Killecomaine, for which Seat the said William Mathers has an article from the sd. John Mathers which is entered in the Vestry Book of Segoe by consent of the Minister, Churchwardens, and Parishioners present.

These are therefore to certifie that I the said William Mathers has sould and made over to Robert Blacker, of Edenderry, one-third part of the sd. seat to him and his heirs for ever in Lew of a sum of money received by me from the said Robert Blacker, As witness my hand this first day of May, 1731—William Mathers.

[Immediately underneath the above is written the following in a different hand].

I protest against the entering the above as done by Act of Vestry, the above-mentioned seat being annexed to the freehold of Killecomaine.—Meredith Workman.

[These entries throw an interesting light on the way in which the Parish Church was regarded in the past, and we hope in the present too. It represented in itself all parts of the Parish, and each townland, and every individual in each townland had a share in it, and a right to a place in it. Meredith Workman in 1731, upheld the rights of all the Parishioners when he protested against the action of William Mathers.]

Interesting List of Communicants.—On Sunday, November 27th, 1709, the following Parishioners partook of Holy Communion in the Old Church. It is interesting to have the names—Mrs. Hanna Blacker, Mrs. Judith Robinson, Margaret West, John Gibson, ye elder, John Gibson, ye younger, Eliz. Toulerton, Jane Medcalfe, Anthony Medcalfe, James Bomer, James Coal, Marg. Jones, Woolley Smurphett.

Conditional Baptism in Seagoe, 1716.—The care with which the Sacraments and Rites of the

Church were administered in old days is evident from the following entry in the Registers—

May the First, 1716. There was a child brought to the Church which had been left at Widow Brennan's house in Edenderry, concerning which it could not be known, neither who were the parents nor whether it had been baptized and therefore Mr. Campbell proceeded according to the Rubrick saying, If thou art not already baptized, Elizabeth, I baptize thee, etc. George Rodgers, Churchwarden, was Godfather, Margaret Carvel, the Nurse, and Katherine Deale, were Godmothers.

John Campbell.

[The above is in the handwriting of the Rev. John Campbell at that time Vicar of Seagoe].

Churchwardens of Seagoe (CONTINUED) :—

1727—Robert Blacker, of Edenderry,
John Berry, of Aughehey.

1728—Mr. Edward Barton, of Drumgor,
Robert Wilson, of Levaghary.

1729—Leonard Cross, of Moreverty,
John Gibson, of Upper Seagoe.

1730—Thomas Bradshaw, of Knocknemuckley,
Thomas Woolsey, of Edenderry.

Two Letters.

The Rector has during the past month received two letters which will be of general interest to the readers of the Magazine.

Mr. John Mitten, of Gorteen, Co. Fermanagh, writes to express his sincere gratitude to all in Seagoe Parish who sympathised with him in the sad death of his son Lawrence Mitten. He says, "It is a great contentment to me to know of the respect he had gained in the Parish. I hope you will excuse this trembling old hand. Eighty-six years of age. I must soon follow my dear son. Your kind letter and sympathy has caused me some tears, also the piece in the Magazine. It is a consolation to me that he was so respected."

Another letter has been received from the Rev. Manning Bennett, Rector of St. Mary's Church, South Manchester, Connecticut, U.S.A. Mr. Manning is the clergyman in charge of South Manchester to which a large number of Seagoe people have emigrated. They work in the extensive Silk Mills there. Mr. Bennett is very anxious to get to know all the young people, and has asked the Rector to let him know as far as possible the names and addresses of those from this Parish now residing at South Manchester. A good many copies of this Magazine are mailed every month to South Manchester, and we express the earnest hope that Seagoe parishioners resident in South Manchester will regularly attend St. Mary's Episcopal Church, and help Mr. Bennett in ever possible way. Mr. Bennett kindly enclosed photographs of St. Mary's Church and of the Silk Mills.