

Christmas, 1917.

We wish all our Readers a very
Happy Christmas and a Bright
New Year.

On Christmas Day Services will be held in the Parish Church as follows:—

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11-30 a.m.—Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion.

The offerings at these services will be on behalf of the Clothing and Comforts Fund for the Poor of the Parish.

Advent, 1917.

During Advent, which begins on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, Special Addresses will be given on the following subjects:—

On the Sunday Mornings the subject will be the "Four Greater Prophets"—December 2nd, Isaiah; December 9th, Jeremiah; December 16th, Ezekiel; December 23rd, Daniel.

On the Sunday Evenings—"Four Articles of the Apostles' Creed."—December 2nd, The Holy Catholic Church; December 9th, The Communion of Saints; December 16th, The Forgiveness of Sins; December 23rd, The Life Everlasting.

On Wednesday Evenings—December 5th, Life; December 12th, Death; December 19th, Judgment.

Organ Recital.

It is many years since we have had an Organ Recital in the Parish Church. Arrangements have been made to have one on Thursday, December 13th, at 8 o'clock. Mr. G. A. Hardcastle, Organist of St. Mark's, Portadown, has kindly agreed to preside at the Organ. Some vocal items of Sacred Music will be sung, and Mr. Hardcastle will play a selection of Sacred Music by the great composers. The offerings at the Recital will be given to the Ulster Volunteer Hospital Fund—a most deserving object. The Organ is a very fine instrument, and was Dedicated on Thursday, April 19th, 1900, in memory of the late Baroness von Stieglitz.

Resolution of Select Vestry.

At a Meeting of the Select Vestry of the Parish held on Tuesday, November 13, the following important resolution was adopted:—

"That it has become necessary to increase the amount of the Sustentation Fund to a sum of £200 per annum, owing to its insufficiency to meet the claims upon it, and that to accomplish this end the Parishioners be asked to increase their Subscriptions this year by one-third."

OUR NEW M.P.

MAJOR W. J. ALLEN has been elected M.P. for North Armagh without a contest. We offer him our hearty congratulations. He has helped us very generously on many occasions in Seagoe Parish, and especially in Drumgor. Notwithstanding the severe accident which befel him some years ago, he answered with readiness the call of King and Country, to serve in the war. He will be a stout upholder of the Union, and his double experience as a leader of industry and an officer in the Army should render him a most useful member of the Ulster Unionist Party. Mr. Justice Moore, our late Member, did yeoman service in the House for many years. His appointment, as a Judge of the King's Bench, will add strength to the Judiciary at a critical time in the history of our land.

Seagoe Day School.

We heartily congratulate Mr Christopher Boyle, Assistant Teacher in Seagoe N.S., on his appointment as Principal of Carginagh N.S., in Kilkeel Parish. Mr. Boyle was appointed to his post in Seagoe School nearly seven years ago, and during those years he has discharged with diligence and capacity his duties as a teacher. He will be much missed by the children of the School, who were very fond of him. Mr. Boyle also acted as a Teacher in Edenderry Morning Sunday School, and as Superintendent of Seagoe Afternoon Sunday School. On behalf of our readers we offer him our best wishes in his new sphere of work. Mr. Boyle takes up his new duties early in January.

The Parish Almanac for 1918.

Copies of the Parish Almanac for 1918, may now be had at Collins' Grocery Store, Edenderry, or from the Superintendents of Sunday Schools, price 1d per copy. Secure your copy at once as the number is limited.

A Notable Tribute.

The Christmas number of "The Strand Magazine," contains a very notable tribute to the valour of the Ulster Division on July 1st, 1916. It is included under the heading "What is the greatest deed of valour in our History?" Three eminent writers were asked by the Editor to contribute their opinions. Mr. H. B. Marriott-Watson, one of the three, and one of the foremost writers of the day, asserts that the advance of the Ulster Division on July 1st, 1916, against Thiepval, Grandcourt and Beaumont Hamel was the greatest deed of valour in British History. The article is a splendid description of the events of that awful and yet glorious day, when so many of our bravest and best sealed their devotion to duty with their own life-blood. This testimony, coming from an outside and impartial source, and published in a leading Magazine is a splendid proof of the surpassing bravery of our own Battalions.

The Misses Dawson.

Their many friends in Seagoe Parish will be interested to know that Miss Mary and Miss Cherry Dawson left London on Wednesday, November 21st, for South America. They travel overland to Lisbon, and there intend to embark on a steamer bound for Buenos Ayres in South America. They will then have to make a long Transcontinental Railway journey to Chile, where they will resume Missionary work. The journey by sea and land is a very extended one and, with the submarine menace, a very dangerous venture. We ask the prayers of our people that they may be brought in safety to their journey's end. It says much for the Missionary enthusiasm of the Misses Dawson that they have determined, in spite of so many dangers, to go back to their devoted labours among the Indian tribe of Chile.

The Annual Report.

The Parochial Report is now in the hands of the Parishioners. It is clearly arranged, and contains a complete financial record of the Parish up to Easter, 1917. We hope it will be carefully studied by the Parishioners. A fresh effort is being made just now to increase the contributions to the Sustentation Fund. The pressure of the war, with its accompaniment of high prices, makes it necessary for the Parishioners to increase their gifts, if the Clerical Staff of the Parish is to be maintained. As we said last month, a sum of £200 is needed each year, if the demands on the Fund for Clerical Income and Glebe Purchase Scheme are to be met.

Lecture in Edenderry.

The Rev. G. Bloomer very kindly gave his Lecture on his experiences in France, to a large gathering in Edenderry Parochial Hall, on Monday, November 19th, at 8 o'clock. The Rector presided, and there were also present on the platform the Rev. G. H. Daunt, Rector of Knocknamuckley, and the Rev. T. H. Scanlon. Mr. Bloomer kept the eager attention of his hearers from start to finish, and at times used a blackboard to illustrate his remarks. The Lecture was humorous as well as interesting, and some of the experiences related caused hearty laughter. Those who had the privilege of being present will have realised more clearly than ever before the hardships and dangers which our lads at the front have to encounter from day to day. A hearty vote of thanks to the Lecturer was proposed by the Rev. G. H. Daunt, and seconded by Mr. W. R. Atkinson. The proceeds of the Lecture are on behalf of the Parochial Hall Fund.

Seagoe in Palestine.

[Captain Edward Costello, nephew of Mr. Andrew Costello, of Tamnificarbet, and of Mrs. Ramsey, of Kernan, visited Seagoe a few years ago. His father emigrated many years ago to Australia, and is still living there. Captain Costello is a splendid specimen of Seagoe manhood, being 6 feet 6 inches in height. The following account of his experiences in Palestine

is taken from "The Warwick Examiner and Times," for June 25th, 1917.]

A SOLDIER'S LETTER.

Chatty News from Palestine.

Mr. J. A. Costello, Thane, has received an interesting letter from his brother, Captain Edward Costello, who is at present in Palestine:—

Just a short note to let you know I am still doing fairly well. You will have seen by the papers of some of our last fighting. I have no hope of telling you one half of what has been done during the past two weeks. I will only tell a little about our own division. Our army here is a large one and had made great arrangements for this scrap. They pushed the railway line within eight miles of the enemy's position. Then we made an attack on the 18th and 19th. The fight was very hot. We were unable to gain all we hoped for, and now are having a rest and thinking of the next move. The 11th and 12th Light Horse Regiments were side by side in the scrap, and both suffered heavily. The 11th Light Horse had four officers wounded, fifteen N.C.O.'s and men killed, and about fifty wounded. The 12th Light Horse suffered more than we did. The other Light Horse Regiments also got a heavy share of it. My pal, Major Chambers, of the 2nd Light Horse, was killed. One of the Burgess boys was wounded. We do not see our wounded after they leave us. The country we are fighting in is around a town called "Garzar" (spelt Gaza) in Palestine. It is good country, light soil, with deep sandy gullies. There is plenty of water in the wells for our force. Fruit trees do well here. We have tramped over hundreds of acres of good barley crops. Our horses have been able to live and do well on the grazing, there being plenty of good grass. Taking it all round the country is very pretty. The people live in mud huts, and are Arabs and Syrians, who, if they get a chance, would carry information to the enemy.

Band of Hope.

A Band of Hope Meeting, with Readings and Recitations, will be held in Edenderry Parochial Hall, on Tuesday, December 11th, at 8 o'clock. Admission free.

Mission to the Deaf and Dumb.

The Meeting held in the Anchor Café, on Tuesday, November 13th, on behalf of this Mission proved a great success. Mr. Francis Maginn, who is himself Deaf and Dumb, gave a most interesting display of the sign language. W. J. Rainey, one of our Edenderry boys, gave a smart display of the finger language, spelling out each word of the Lord's Prayer in a very brief space. Tea was partaken of after the meeting. A liberal collection, amounting to £2 16s, was placed on the plate at the door, and after paying all expenses a balance of £1 1s remained over, which has been sent to Mr. Maginn for his Mission. There are five Deaf and Dumb members of the Church of Ireland in this Parish.

His Last Words.

Private Robert John Cordy, Royal Lancaster Regiment, of Carne, who was killed in action last August, in France, in the last letter to his father Mr. David Cordy, dated 18th July, 1917, added to his letter the following postscript—They were his last written words—

“My Boss will be over seeing you from Barrow. Let him see that you are proud to have a son fighting for the old Homestead, as he likes a true Ulster man.”

We record these words as expressive of the high spirit of loyalty and courage which animates our Seagoe lads, as they go forth valiantly to share in the hazards of this World-War.

Townland Collections for Soldiers' Comforts.

Breagh, £2; Ballyhannon, 6s 8d; Ballymacrandle, 9s 11d; Hacknahay, £1 3s 1d; Drumnacanvey, Drumlisnagrilly, and Knock, 12s 6½d; Levaghery, £1 0s 10d; Ballinacor and Carne, £1 2s 3½d; Balteagh, Drumorg, Tamnificarbet, Tamnifiglasson, and Kilvergan, £4 8s 8d; Kernan and Drumnagoon, £1 4s 1d; Bocombra and Killicomain, 8s; Clanrolle and Knockmena, 5s 11d; Lylo, 6s 4d; Upper Seagoe, 14s 9½d; Lower Seagoe and Derryvore, 5s 9½d; Tarson, 9s 3d; Edenderry, £6 8s 9d making a Total of £21 6s 11d—for which we wish to thank collectors and subscribers.

The members of the Hacknahay G.F.S. are again knitting enthusiastically, and their help is much appreciated. We especially thank Miss Eliza Magee for continuing to work, although no longer living in Seagoe.

Concert at Levaghery.

A splendid Social and Concert is to be given in Levaghery School, on Thursday, December 6th. Tea will be on the tables at seven o'clock. The Proceeds go towards the Soldiers' Rest Room at Portadown Station—a most deserving object. Tickets 1/6 & 6d each. We hear that there has been a great demand for Tickets.

ITEMS.

Willie Whiteside, who lost his sight in the War, is making three mats for Seagoe School.

The Boxes for Soldiers' Comforts have done well in the Parish. A sum of over £12 had been collected a month ago. A much larger sum is now in hand.

Mr. John Lyness, of Carne, dug out of his land four potatoes of the Blue Mountain variety, which together weighed half-a-stone. The potatoes were all well shaped and single.

Sunday, January 6th, 1918, has been proclaimed by the King as a special Day of Prayer for the nation. None should be absent on that day from their Parish Church.

Our Seagoe lads have done their bit within the last few days in smashing up old Hindenburg's line. When he said no one could break through, he hadn't felt the Seagoe "touch."

The Bann Meadows have been heavily flooded during the past three weeks. Unfortunately a considerable quantity of hay in cocks is still in the flooded land.

The Collection for the Sustentation Fund is now being made throughout the Parish. Please help the Collectors by having your contributions ready when they call

The design for the Memorial Tablet to the late Mr. George Calvert has been chosen. It is very handsome. The materials from which it will be constructed are an outside frame-work of fine white Bath stone, inlaid with a broad band of the finest Connemara Marble. The centre of the Tablet will consist of a slab of the purest white statuary marble. The lettering will be of a very handsome type. The Select Vestry have chosen as the best position for the Tablet the wall space on the left as one enters the inner door of the Church. Messrs. Purdy and Millard, of Belfast, are executing the work.

On Advent Sunday, an Anthem—"How beautiful upon the mountains," will be sung by the Choir.

The Annual Inspection of Seagoe Day School was held on Thursday, November 29th, by Mr. T. J. Carroll, Inspector under the National Board. There was a large attendance of the pupils, who were very neat and tidy. The Inspection was very thorough. The Inspector's Report has not yet been received.

We congratulate seaman Victor Robinson, R.N., of Edenderry, on his recent marriage. He was one of the heroes of H.M.S. Tiger, who fought in the Jutland fight. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Robinson much blessing and happiness in their future life. They were married in St. Mark's Church, Portadown, on October 1st.

We are glad to hear that Captain Dobson has quite recovered from his serious illness. He is at present in Egypt and hopes shortly to join the forces fighting in Palestine.

Wild swans are very numerous just now on the flooded lands at Derryvore.

The Rev. James Smyth, B.A., has been appointed Rector of Ardmore. He had for the past 18 months been Curate-in-charge of the Parish. The Rector of Seagoe preached in Ardmore Church on Sunday, November 18th, on the occasion of the Induction of the new Rector.

On Tuesday, January 1st, New Year's Day, and the Festival of the Circumcision Services will be held in the Parish Church at 11-30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

PARISH REGISTER for NOVEMBER

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on November 3rd, 1917 :—

Smyth—Thomas James, son of Thomas James and Sarah Emily Smyth, of Portadown.

Sponsors—Sarah Rainey, Sarah Emily Smyth.

Freeburn—Samuel, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Anne Freeburn, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Elizabeth Ann Freeburn, Sarah Rainey.

Gracey—James Frederick, son of John George and Sarah Jane Gracey, of Balteagh.

Sponsors—John George Gracey, Sarah Jane Gracey.

White—William Holmes, son of Woolsey James and Margaret White, of Bocombra.

Sponsors—Emma Louisa Wilson, Christina Holmes.

Burial.

Campbell—16th November, 1917, William Campbell, of Raheny, Co, Dublin, and of Knock, in this Parish, aged 60 years.

Death at the Front.

Gillespie—On November 17th, in 2nd Casualty Clearing Hospital, France, from illness contracted on active service, Private Francis Gillespie, 191st Labour Company, late of Edenderry.

Offertories for November.

Sunday Mornings	...	£8 12 1
„ Evenings	...	1 10 5
Week-days	...	0 5 10
		£10 8 4

Included in above — November 25th, Special Offertory for Poor Parishes, £4.

Old Seagoe Notes.

Ancient Acts of the Cathedral Chapter of Dromore.—The Acts of the Cathedral Chapter of Dromore all begin in the following quaint way—“Acts had, sped, and dispatched in the Chapter House of the Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer of Dromore.”

The present Minute Book of the Chapter contains the Acts of the Chapter since Thursday, June 2nd, 1743, when the Rev. George Howse, Rector of Seagoe and Archdeacon of Dromore, was made Sub-Dean of the Cathedral in the absence of the Rev. Samuel Hutchinson, Dean of Dromore.

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George, Duke of Manchester, 1845.—George, Duke of Manchester, who lived in the middle of the 19th century and owned a large part of Seagoe Parish, was a remarkable man in many ways. He was very simple and unassuming in his manner of living. He was a keen sportsman. A resident in Seagoe Parish recalls a visit paid to her father's house, when she was a child, by two men who were out shooting. They were dressed in homely garb and coming to the door were invited in. They said they were very tired and hungry, so they were hospitably entertained

to a simple meal by the owner of the house. Before leaving one of the two informed the host that he had been entertaining the Duke of Manchester. The Duke was also deeply read in Theology, and in the year 1845 published a learned Commentary on the Book of Daniel. The title of the work was “The Times of Daniel, Chronological and Prophetical, examined with relation to the point of Contact between Sacred and Profane Chronology,” by George, Duke of Manchester. A capable reviewer of the Book described it as “a work of much research and close reasoning, in which originality is reconciled with caution, and speculation is secured by a discreet spirit against the perils of a too adventurous rashness.” He was the sixth Duke of Manchester, and died on the 18th July, 1855.

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Dean Dawson's First Sermon in Knocknamuckley Church.—Dean Dawson preached the first sermon in Knocknamuckley Church, after it was Consecrated. Mr. Maginnis, sen., of Breagh, was present, and remembers that the text was—“Brethren, pray for us.”—1 Thess. v.-25.

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Map of Mount Carroll, Ardmore, 1782—In the Record office, in Dublin, may be seen a very fine Map (coloured) of what was known in 1782 as Mount Carall or Mount Carroll, Ardmore. The full Title of the Map is beautifully printed in by hand in an elaborate frame-design. It is as follows—A Map of Mount Carall, formerly the Rev. John Carall's, now the property of Mr. James Carall, survey'd in Nov., 1782 by Thomas Gribbin. The property described in the Map was of considerable extent. It consisted of three portions, containing the following acreage; Total acreage in the demain 42-0-05; Total in the Church Farm 46-1-03; Turf Bog 7-1-17. Full total, including roads, English measure, 95-2-25. The Map is divided up into fields and plots, each of which bears a number and a name. The names are of interest. Among them are—2, Long Meadow; 3, The field at Widow Murphy's; 6, Far Field at Alex. Humphries; 7, Long Bog Meadow; 9, The Middle Green Field; 10, The near Green Field at the New Garden; 13, The Ramper Meadow; 25, Mrs. Carall's Field. The chief dwelling-house is marked on the site of the present Ardmore Rectory. The Church is marked on its present site, with tower and vane. The Map is an interesting relic of what was once a part of Seagoe Parish. The Rev. John Caroll was Curate of Seagoe before he became Clerk of the Moyntiagh's. From the Map the question arises was he the original owner of the land on which the Church and Rectory was built, or did he purchase it after his appointment as Curate-in-charge. It seems more probable that the present Rectory and Church Grounds were formed out of a private property called Mount Carroll, and owned by the Carroll family, one of whom eventually became the first Clerk of the Moyntiagh's.