

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

DECEMBER, 1933.

A Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year to all our readers at home and abroad!

CLERGY :

Rev. Chancellor Archer, B.D., The Rectory, Seagoe.

Rev. W. F. Hayes, B.A., The Bungalow, Lower Seagoe, Portadown.

CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's—Mr. James Twinem.

People's—Mr. Wm. White.

Advent, 1933.

The season of Advent is with us once again. It is the season of Preparation and Repentance. Archbishop Trench, in commenting on the Parable of the Ten Virgins, writes as follows:—"Those Christians are like the Wise Virgins who recognise that the Bridegroom may tarry long, and who therefore foresee that they may have a long life before them of patience and self-denial before they shall come to the Kingdom. They rightly judge that it is not a few warm excited feelings which will carry them triumphantly through all this but settled principles of life and work." St. Augustine said—"The last day is hidden that every day may be regarded. He therefore loves the coming of the Lord who, whether it be near or far off awaits it with sincerity of Faith, constancy of Hope and fervour of Love."

Special Advent Services.

On the Wednesdays in Advent Services will be held in the Parish Church at 8 p.m. as follows:—

Dec. 6th—A Service to which are specially invited our Sunday School Superintendents, teachers and senior children, also the members of the Men's Bible Class and of the C.L.B.

Dec. 13th—The members of the Mothers' Union and of the G.F.S. are specially invited to be present. The Rev. W. G. Kerr, M.A., Senior Curate of St. Mark's Church, Portadown, will preach.

Dec. 20th—The members of Select Vestry, Sustentation Fund collectors and Magazine Distributors are specially invited to attend.

On Advent Sunday, Dec. 3rd, the offerings at Morning Prayer will be on behalf of Foreign Missions.

On Sunday, Dec. 10th, which is often referred to as "Bible Sunday," the offerings at Morning and Evening Prayer will be given to the Hibern-

ian Bible Society. The object of the Society is to circulate the Scriptures in all languages throughout the world. Grants of Bibles at half price are given for Sunday School Prizes. The Society has helped this Parish very generously by giving such grants to our Sunday Schools.

Christmas Day.

Christmas Day, Dec. 25th, will this year fall on Monday. The following Services will be held: 8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11.30 a.m.—Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion.

The offerings at the Services on Christmas Day will be on behalf of the Poor of the Parish.

At the evening Service on Sunday, Dec. 24th, Christmas Carols will be sung.

New Year's Day.

On Monday, January 1st, the Festival of the Circumcision and New Year's Day there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 11.30 a.m., and Evening Prayer and Sermon at 8 p.m.

School Concert.

On Thursday, Dec. 7th, a Concert will be given in Seagoe School by the pupils attending the School. A splendid programme has been arranged. Tickets for the Concert are now on sale at 1/- and 9d. The proceeds of the Concert are on behalf of the School Upkeep and Improvement Fund. A concert by the pupils of the School is an event looked forward to by many, and is always of great interest.

Jay Shot in Seagoe.

In our last issue we published a note describing "A strange visitor" to the Parish. It was a bird of very handsome plumage shot by Mr. Valentine Carville at Killicomaine last October. It was a Jay, a bird rarely seen in Ulster, but more frequently seen in Southern Ireland. We quote the following from the Encyclopaedia Britannica—"The Jay is a well-known and very beautiful European bird. In their habits the Jays are arboreal, delighting in thick coverts, seldom appearing in the open and seeking their food under trees. They seem never to walk or run, only to hop. The proverbial beauty of the 'Jay's wing' is due to the vivid tints of blue-turquoise and cobalt—heightened by bars of jet-black. No truthful man will gainsay the depre-

dations on fruit and eggs that it at all times commits, hence farmers war against it, but its varied cries and active gesticulations shew it to be a sprightly bird. It is rendered conspicuous by its cinnamon-coloured body and pure white tail-coverts, which contrast with the deep black and rich chestnut that otherwise mark its plumage. The nest, generally concealed in a leafy tree or bush, is carefully built, with a lining formed of fine roots neatly interwoven. Four to seven eggs of a greenish-white, closely freckled, are laid in March or April. In Canada the Blue Jay is a famous and very beautiful bird. The Jay, notwithstanding its rich plumage, is first cousin of the common Crow. An interesting point regarding the Jay is that it can be taught to whistle tunes and even to talk. It possesses unusual imitative powers."

Seagoe Wedding in Canada.

We have received a copy of the "Winnipeg Free Press" of October 25th, 1933, containing a most interesting account of the marriage of Miss Dinah Elizabeth Robinson, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas George Robinson, formerly of Tamnificarbet, in this Parish. We give here an extract from the paper and we offer our hearty congratulations to the happy couple and to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson:—

WEDDING—GREEN AND ROBINSON

"A very pretty wedding was solemnised Thursday, October 19, in St. Barnabas Church, Somerset, Man., when Dinah Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. George Robinson, of the Beaconsfield district, near Treherne, was united in marriage to George Elmer Green, only son of Mr. and Mrs. George Green, of Treherne. The bride, attended by her matron-of-honour, Mrs. H. Wiley, sister of the bridegroom, entered the church with her father to the strains of the 'Bridal Chorus' from 'Lohengrin,' played by Mrs. P. Anstey. The bridegroom, attended by Mr. George Robinson, jr., was waiting at the chancel steps with Rev. F. H. Donaghy, who officiated.

"The bride looked charming in a gown of biege georgette and lace, and a hat of brown felt with other accessories to match. The matron-of-honor wore a dainty gown of navy georgette and lace with a close-fitting model hat of independence blue. The bride's mother wore a becoming gown of skipper blue flat crepe, the mother of the bridegroom being attired in a pretty gown of black crepe-back satin.

"During the signing of the register Mrs. Anstey played Mendelssohn's 'Wedding March.' The ceremony was followed by a magnificent wedding breakfast at which there were thirty guests. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a dainty necklace; to the matron-of-honor a neck-

lace, and to the groomsman a pair of kid gloves. After the reception Mr. and Mrs. Green left for Creelman, Saskatchewan, where they will spend the honeymoon. They will reside near Treherne.

"An interesting feature of the occasion was the fact that Mr. and Mrs. George Robinson were celebrating their silver wedding on their daughter's wedding day."

Parish Register for November Marriage.

Green and Robinson—Oct. 19th, at St. Barnabas's Church, Somerset, Manitoba, Canada. Geo. Elmer Green, of Beaconsfield, Manitoba, Canada, to Dinah Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. T. J. Robinson, formerly of Tamnifiglasson, and now residing at Somerset, Manitoba, Canada.

Burials.

Rennix—Nov. 16th, Catherine Rennix, of Seagoe Upper, aged 72 years.

Calvert—Nov. 19th, William John Calvert, of Ballymacrandle, aged 68 years.

Obituary.

We record with much regret the deaths of two parishioners who were very well-known to many in the Parish. Mrs. Rennix, a member of Squire Robinson's family, of Lylo House, passed away after a brief illness. She was a most regular attender at Seagoe Parish Church and was always much interested in the work of the Parish. We sympathise with Mrs. Walker and the members of her family in their sad loss. William John Calvert, whose death we also record, was very well known and very popular in the Parish. His death occurred after a very brief illness. We express our sympathy with Mrs. Calvert and the members of his family and with his sister, Miss R. Calvert, in the loss they have sustained. "We sorrow not as those without hope for them that sleep in Him."

The New Plot.

The actual work of draining and laying-out the new plot beside the Church has now been completed. New iron gates and pillars of handsome design have been erected. The gates were made by the Foundry in Foundry Street. It is hoped that in the near future the Lord Bishop will consecrate the ground as a graveyard. The ground has been thoroughly drained. There are no less than 720 feet of deep drains in the plot.

Seagoe Parish Almanacs.

Copies of the Parish Almanac can now be had at Mr. Vance's, Bridge St., Price 2d. The Almanac is very bright and pretty and contains a text of Scripture for every day in the year.

C.L.B. Concert.

On Thursday, Nov. 16th, a very attractive concert was given in the Parochial Hall by the bands of the C.L.B. Cadets and Training Corps. A splendid new curtain was hung in front of the platform, the latter having been much enlarged for the occasion. The programme was of a varied and novel kind. Each item was announced by a card displayed by a member of the Training Corps, Private Topley. The Rev. W. F. Hayes, Assistant Chaplain, C.L.B., played the accompaniments and also sang and recited. Lieut. Mitchell sang two songs and was encored. Two lamp Fire scenes were arranged, one for the Cadets and one for the Juniors. They were most realistic. Lance-Corporal D. Allen and Corporal Donaldson also recited. Cadet J. Courtney sang two songs. Sergeant Joe Hynes sang and recited with great effect. His recitation of "The Old Soldier" was very touching. One of the most original and effective items was the series of "Acts" illustrating the principles and work of the C.L.B. Discipline, alertness and consequent success, as a result of training, were cleverly illustrated. The lady typist in the "Office scene" created much amusement. Sergeant Hynes and Cadet W. Best did a very amusing sketch entitled "The Railway Station." Cadet R. Allen sang, and Cadet J. Hoy played a violin solo. At the close of the entertainment the Rector, who presided, thanked all who had helped in the entertainment, and especially Lieut. Mitchell, who had devoted time and energy to the work of the Brigade.

Choir Social.

A very enjoyable Choir Social was held in Seagoe School on Tuesday, Nov. 21st. The entertainment was most kindly given by Mr. T. H. Wilson. After tea, the members present engaged in round games. At intervals songs were sung. Before the company separated, the Rector, on behalf of all present, thanked Mr. T. H. Wilson for his kindness in entertaining the choir, and referred to the fact that in March, 1934, Mr. Wilson will have completed his 60th year as organist of Seagoe, to which post he was appointed in March, 1874.

Seagoe Mothers' Union.

On Tuesday, Nov. 14th, a meeting of the Mothers' Union was held in Seagoe School, at 7.30 p.m. Notwithstanding the rain and storm a large number of members were present. After tea, the Rector gave an address to the members on "Bible Illustrations of Home Life." The members arranged to attend the special Advent Service in the Parish Church on Wednesday, Dec. 13th, at 8 p.m.

The Sustentation Fund.

Annual subscriptions to the Sustentation Fund should be paid in early in December as the accounts close on Dec. 31st, 1933. The new sets of W.F.O. envelopes will be distributed before the end of the year.

Seagoe in Africa.

Captain J. J. Dobson, formerly a Licensed Lay Reader in Seagoe Parish, now resides at Nairobi, in Kenya Colony, East Africa. He takes an active interest in the life of the community just as he did when in Seagoe. The East African Weekly Times of Friday, Oct. 20th, 1933, in its "Chit-Chat" notes has the following reference to Captain Dobson:—"Captain J. J. Dobson has resigned the secretaryship of the Nairobi Association, an honorary post which he has held for the past 4½ years. He feels that it is about time he had a rest from his labours. He also feels that he would like to take a greater part in the interesting debates. Well, I've met some secretaries in my time, but I must say that for energy and forceful opinions Captain Dobson took some beating. The Chairman is going to have a bright time when Captain Dobson takes the floor." [Captain Dobson is Secretary of the British Legion of ex-Servicemen in Nairobi.]

District Services.

Services were held last month on Wednesday, November 22nd, in Levaghery School, and on Wednesday, Nov. 29th, in Bocombra Church Hall. Both Services were well attended. Miss Selina Bradshaw played the harmonium in Levaghery, and Miss Nellie White at Bocombra. At this latter place Mr. James Twinem has secured a very fine harmonium by the famous firm of Mason and Hamlin. It is hoped in the New Year to continue such services in the outlying districts of the Parish.

The Annual Report.

The report is now being circulated. It contains a full statement of all sums received and paid out up to Dec. 31st, 1932, and in certain accounts up to Easter, 1933. If any mistakes are noticed please communicate with the Hon. Treas., Mr. Hugh Stoops, Killicomaine Road, Portadown. Every effort has been made to ensure correctness.

Old Seagoe Notes.

Seagoe in the 12th Century.—Seagoe had been a centre of Christian worship for 500 years before it became a Parish. No doubt the successive buildings on the old site had been frequently raided by marauding Northmen and often times burned to the ground, but the sacred site remained as it does to this day where the ruins of

the old Church still stand. When we are considering the movement which led to the formation of a Parish of Seagoe we must remember that there was a great Reformation movement in Ireland in the 12th century as well as in the 16th. The first event of importance in the earlier movement was the holding of a Synod at Rathbreasil, near Mountrath, in the King's County in the year A.D. 1110. This Synod was not a mere gathering of Ecclesiastics; it was attended by laymen as well as Clerics. The holding of the Synod seems to have been due to the influence of the Danes or Northmen who had abandoned their paganism and become Christians. Apparently they got their ideas of the Church from abroad. They held to the principle of a Diocesan Episcopate in which each Bishop ruled over a clearly defined territory called a diocese. At the Synod of Rathbreasil the whole of Ireland was mapped out into Dioceses. The natural result of this arrangement was that as the Bishop ruled over a certain area so the local priest or cleric would have his special portion of the Diocese defined.

The area assigned to Seagoe was of considerable extent. It included the present Parish of Ardmore and the portion of Knocknamuckley Parish running as far as Buttermilk Bridge, close to the present Church of Knocknamuckley. The river Bann was a clearly defined boundary on the west and on the east the boundary touched the perpetual Vicarage of Enachloisgy, the Parish of Shankill and the Parish of Tullylish. The townlands actually within the Parish boundaries were 57 in number, covering an area of 16,178 acres, the modern Poor Law Valuation being £24,749.

A glance at the names of the 57 townlands

which constituted the original Parish of Seagoe reveals several points of interest. Eight out of the ten townlands allotted to Ardmore have the prefix Derry. It was a common saying that every townland beginning with a Derry was part of the Moyntiagh district. Many townlands in Drumree Parish beyond the Bann also begin with Derry. The word Derry or Daire means in Irish an oak tree or an oak wood. This respect for the oak leads us to believe that these townlands were named by the Druids in pre-Christian days. The oak was in their eyes specially sacred and the mistletoe which grew on the oak was regarded as a symbol of the presence of a god. It was known as the Golden Bough. Townlands seem to have been in many cases called after trees. The frequency of the prefix Derry seems to prove this. Two other of the townlands in the Parish have Derry incorporated with them—Derryvore and Edenderry. It is not always easy to trace the meaning of these townland names. Derryadd means the Long Oakwood. The word Inver in Derryinver means the mouth of a river, so Derryinver means the oakwood at the mouth of the river. This townland lies where the Bann enters Lough Neagh. Cor means a cuplike hollow, so Derrycor is the oakwood in the hollow. Loisy is a marshy place, and Derryloist is therefore the Oakwood in the Marsh. Derrymacash means the Oakwood of the Wicker Bridge. This was apparently a light bridge thrown across the Croset river. Derrytagh is apparently the House of the Oakwood, the latter part of the word being "teach" a house. Derrytrasna means the Oakwood of the Swimming Strand. Ballynery is the town of the level moor or field. Ardmore means the great height or hill.

SERVICES—The PARISH CHURCH

HOLY COMMUNION—1st Sunday after Morning Prayer; 3rd Sunday at 8 a.m., and on the Chief Festivals.

HOLY BAPTISM—1st Saturday of each Month at 3 p.m., and during any Service in the Parish Church, if notice be given; Two Sponsors at least are required, and they must be Confirmed Members of the Church. Churchings are held at each Baptism. Mothers are expected to bring a thankoffering. (See Book of Common Prayer.)

MORNING PRAYER—Sundays and Chief Festivals, 11.30 a.m.

EVENING PRAYER—Sundays, 7 p.m.

DISTRICT SERVICES

Hacknahay—Last Sunday of Month at 3.30 p.m.

Drumgor—Second Sunday of Month at 4 p.m.

Edenderry—Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

CLASSES, &c.

BIBLE CLASS FOR MEN in Edenderry on Sundays at 10 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS 10 a.m. Edenderry Parochial Hall and Seagoe School. 3 p.m. Seagoe, Edenderry Parochial Hall, Levaghery, Hacknahay, Carne, Drumgor, Bocombra.

MOTHERS' UNION—2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

CHURCH LADS' BRIGADE in the Parochial Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY in Seagoe School on Mondays at 8 p.m.

SEAGOE P.E. SCHOOL, 9-15 a.m. Principal—Mr R. Scott.

MARRIAGES must be performed between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Licenses are issued by Rev. Canon Hannan, Rectory, Lurgan. Due notice (48 hours) must be given to the Rector of intended weddings. **FEES**—By License—Labourers 5/-. Tradesmen 10/-. Merchants and Farmers 15/-. Professional £1. By Banns 5/-. **FUNERALS** will be attended by the Clergy if proper notice be given. **SICK CASES** should be notified to the Clergy without delay.

FEES FOR CERTIFICATES—BAPTISM 3/7, Children (Factory) 1/- and 2/- (non-residents); **MARRIAGE** 3/7. An extra search Fee is chargeable in certain cases. It will be a help to the Clergy if they are notified of the arrival of new Church families in the Parish.

A copy of the Magazine will be sent post free to any subscriber for 3/- per annum.