

# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JUNE, 1931.

## CLERGY :

Rev. Canon Archer, B.D., The Rectory, Seagoe,  
Rev. W. F. Hayes, B.A., Edendale, CarrickBlacker  
Road, Edenderry, Portadown.

## CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's—Mr. Robert Scott.  
People's—Mr. Isaac Dickson.

### The Confirmation.

The Lord Bishop has made a slight change in the date of the Confirmation, which will now be held on Saturday, June 20th, in Seagoe Parish Church at 3.30 p.m. The Rector will be glad to make arrangements with the employers of candidates to allow them to leave their work in good time for the Confirmation. Parents and sponsors of the candidates who intend to be present at the Service should be early in their places. Candidates will assemble in Seagoe School not later than 3 p.m. on the day of the Confirmation. Special celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in the Parish Church on Sunday, June 21st, at 8 a.m. and also after Morning Prayer. Each candidate must bring with a Prayer Book and Hymn Book to the Confirmation Service.

### Trinity Sunday.

Sunday, May 31st, will be Trinity Sunday. On that day in the special Prayers and Lessons and Hymns we commemorate the Nature and Being of God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion after Morning Prayer.

### Sunday School Excursion.

At a meeting of Sunday School Superintendents and Teachers held in Edenderry Parochial Hall on Wednesday, May 13th, at 9 p.m., it was unanimously decided that the Excursion should take place to Warrenpoint on Thursday, July 16th. Tickets will shortly be on sale. The price of tickets to children whose names are on our Sunday School rolls will be as follows:—8 years old and under, 6d; 12 years and under, 9d; 16 and under, 1/-; Bible Class members and Sunday School Teachers, 1/6. These tickets include two refreshments. Tickets for Adults, 2/- each. If Adults desire refreshments they can have them by purchasing a refreshment ticket (two refreshments) at 1/-, but such ticket must be purchased not later than July 14th. The hour for the departure and return of the Excursion trains and all other necessary particulars will be published in our July issue.

### Seagoe Mothers' Union.

The Mothers' Union will meet (D.V.) on Tuesday, June 9th, in Edenderry Parochial Hall at 7.30 p.m. A full attendance of the members is requested. Tea will be provided.

## General Synod.

Two representatives—the Rector and Mr. James Twinem—of the Parish were present at the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, which met in Dublin on Tuesday, May 19th. The Rector spoke at one session on the necessity for increasing the number of candidates for Ordination to the Christian Ministry. Mr. Twinem spoke on several occasions, and in the debate on opening the membership of the Diocesan and General Synods to Women he opposed the proposition in a vigorous speech. The motion was defeated by a large majority.

### Excursion to Dublin.

Our enterprising Seagoe G.F.S. has arranged an Excursion to Dublin on Saturday, June 27th. Tickets for the return journey, price 7/6, can now be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs. Scott, Grove Lodge, Seagoe, or from any of the members of the Seagoe G.F.S. The train will leave Portadown at 8.20 a.m. This ought to be a very pleasant excursion. It is many years now since we have had an excursion to Dublin from Seagoe. There are many most interesting places to be visited in Dublin, among them Trinity College, founded by Queen Elizabeth, St. Stephen's Green, the Phoenix Park, the Zoological Gardens, famous for its lions, and the two Cathedrals, St. Patrick's and Christ Church. The members of the G.F.S. will also visit the splendid Oak House in St. Stephen's Green, the new Headquarters in Ireland of the G.F.S. Intending excursionists should secure their ticket without delay.

### Bible Society.

Mrs. Thos. Martin, of Balteagh, asks us to acknowledge the following sums which she has received for the Bible Society:—Miss Uprichard, 5/-; Miss Atkinson, 2/6; Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. A. Kirk, 2/- each; 1/ each from Mrs. John Gracey, Mrs. J. Robinson, Mrs. S. Best, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Archer, Mrs. J. Hall, Miss Martin, Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. J. Lavery, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. H. Wray, Mrs. T. Dickson; 6d each from Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Cousins, Mrs. Courtney. Total, £1 5s.

### A Generous Gift.

Miss Minnie Graham, formerly of Railway St. but now for many years resident in the United States, sent a 5 dollar note recently to the Rector to spend in whatever way he thought best. He decided to spend it on an afternoon's enjoyment for the pupils of Seagoe P.E. School in the Grove Field. On Friday, May 8th, the children assembled in the Field after school. A splendid supply of pastry and tea was partaken of in the School playground and after tea all went into the Grove Field, where games and romps of all kinds were enjoyed to the full. At the close of the evening a hearty cheer was given for Miss Graham and for all who had helped in the entertainment. The weather was very fine throughout.



## **Protestant Orphan Society.**

The Annual Sermons on behalf of the County Armagh Protestant Orphan Society will be preached (p.v.) in the Parish Church on Sunday, June 28th, at Morning and Evening Prayer. We ask for liberal offerings towards this great Society, which for over sixty years has been and still is giving liberal help to the Widows and Orphans of Seagoe Parish. We appeal especially to those among us who in their early years shared in the kindly and generous gifts of the Society that they will give it a gift in return for what it has given them.

## **Parish Register for May.**

### **Baptisms.**

The following were baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on May 2nd, 1931:—

**Whiteside**—Wipifred, daughter of Ferguson and Mary Whiteside, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Elizabeth Whiteside, Mary Whiteside.

**M'Cormick**—Alexander, son of Thomas John and Elizabeth M'Cormick, of Ballyhannon.

*Sponsors*—Thomas John M'Cormick, Elizabeth M'Cormick.

**M'Mullan**—David, son of Herbert and Amelia M'Mullan, of Lyllo.

*Sponsors*—Margaret Webb, Amelia M'Mullan.

### **Marriage.**

**Lavery and Glenn**—May 12th. Robert John Lavery, of Kilvergan, to Mabel Glenn, of Lurgan.

### **Burials.**

**Thompson**—May 10th, Christopher Thompson, of Drumgor, aged 75, years. Interred at Aghalee.

**Neill**—May 11th, Henry Neill, of Edenderry.

## **Seagoe School Sports.**

The School Sports are becoming an important annual event and will be held this year just before the breaking-up of the School for the summer holidays. The events will include running, walking, high jump, long jump, three legged race, tug-of-war. Boys and girls, seniors and infants, will take part. Some of the racers are very busy just now practising, and some good records have been already reached. At one time some seventy years ago Seagoe was famous for its athletes. The Brown family of Ballinacor were famous for their jumping powers. They practised on the broad "cuts" in Derryvore and could jump higher and farther than all comers.

## **A Visitor from the States.**

A visitor from the States. Mr. G. A. Whaley, Chairman of the Vacuum Oil Company, 61 Broadway, New York, and one of America's leading merchants, is descended from a Seagoe family who lived here about 1750. Mr. Whaley is at present travelling in

Holland but hopes soon to visit Seagoe and see the homes of his ancestors. The Rector has recently had a letter from Iowa, U.S.A., from the descendants of a family named Brayford or Bradford, who left Seagoe for the States 180 years ago. The name occurs frequently in the early Seagoe Registers.

## **Improvements at Seagoe.**

A favourable reply has been received from the Ministry of Education regarding the Government grant towards the improvement of Seagoe School, and it is possible that in a short time the proposed improvements in structure, heating, lighting and tarmac on the playground will be accomplished. The annual examination in Religious Knowledge by the Diocesan Inspector will be held this month.

## **Seagoe C.L.B.**

The C.L.B. has had a busy month. On Sunday May 17th, they paraded, headed by their Pipe Band to the Parish Church. The offerings were given to the funds. They made a very smart turn-out. On Sunday, May 31st, they go to Belfast for the Battalion Parade. The St. Michael's, Shankill Road Company have invited the Seagoe lads to attend Morning Prayer in St. Michael's Church and afterwards lunch with them. This is a very kind act and much appreciated. In the afternoon the Battalion Service will be held in St. Barnabas Church, Duncairn Gardens. Capt. Metcalf and his officers are to be congratulated on the strength, efficiency and unvarying good conduct of the Company.

## **Our Sunday Schools.**

The nine Sunday Schools of the Parish are doing good work amongst the young people of the Parish. Some of the classes are too large, and we are always in need of teachers. Eight pupils is quite a sufficient number for a teacher if thorough teaching is to be done. Constant changes in the teaching staff must take place in such a large Parish as Seagoe. Bocombe has lost an excellent teacher in Miss Matchett, and we miss badly from Edenderry Afternoon Sunday School Miss Woolsey, who was such a faithful teacher for so many years. Levaghery is still in need of a Superintendent. Some parents in the Parish send their children to Sunday Schools not in connection with the Church of Ireland even though one of our Sunday Schools may be quite near them. The result of this is that such children get quite out of touch with their Church. The Church through her nine Sunday Schools in the Parish shows her anxiety to retain all her children as faithful and intelligent members and we expect parents to help us in this good work.



**Old Seagoe Notes.**

**An Eighteenth Century Vicar of Seagoe.**—The Rev. Arthur Fforde became Vicar of Seagoe in 1731 and continued in that office until 1748. He succeeded the Rev. John Campbell, who died in November, 1730. The Rev. Arthur Fforde was the ancestor of the Fforde family of Raughlin, on the shores of Lough Neagh, which up to 1874 was in the Parish of Seagoe. We are fortunate in possessing full particulars regarding Mr. Fforde and have been fortunate recently in discovering some fresh facts of much interest regarding his character and attainments. He was born in Lurgan and was the son of Matthew Fforde, a member of the family of Seaforde, Co. Down. His father is described in the Records of Trinity College, Dublin, as an Armiger or Knight. His mother was Ann, daughter of Arthur Chamberlain Brownlow, a member of the distinguished Lurgan family. Arthur Fforde was baptized in Shankill Parish Church (the old Church) on Feb. 2nd, 1702-3. He entered Trinity College, Dublin, on Nov. 11th, 1718, at the age of 16. He obtained the degree of B.A. in the spring of 1723, and proceeded to his M.A. degree in the summer of 1726. He signed the Act of Vestry for the first time as Vicar of Seagoe on April 20th, 1731. He was then only 28 years of age. The Vestry Records and Parochial Registers while he was Vicar of Seagoe are very carefully and neatly written. He seems to have supervised everything with very great care. He was greatly interested in education and while Vicar of Seagoe gave the triangular plot of ground known as the School Park beside Old Seagoe graveyard as a site for a school and built on it the school which remained in existence until the present school was built on a different site in 1859. He held the Vicarage of Seagoe until May, 1748. He signed the Vestry Records for the last time as Vicar of Seagoe on April 23rd, 1748.

**A curious thing then happened.**

Apparently he was appointed by the Bishop as Curate-in-charge of the Parish until the coming of his successor, the Rev. Hugh Tisdall, M.A., for he signs the Records on Easter Tuesday, March 28th, 1749, as "Curate." He became Vicar of Shankill his native Parish in 1748 and signed the Shankill Vestry Records for the first time on Oct. 4th, 1748. His last signature

of the Shankill Records was on 22nd April, 1767. He always adds "Minister" after his signature. There is an uncertainty as to the actual date of his death. According to Cotton's "Fasti" he died in 1768, but the inscription on his tombstone at the North side of Old Shankill Church gives the date as 24th Dec., 1767, and this is probably correct. The Rev. Arthur Fforde is referred to as Canon of Kildare on Sept. 30th, 1748, and prior to this had been collated as Prebendary of Dromara, in the Diocese of Dromore. The Bishop of Dromore of that day was Dr. Thomas Fletcher. He was consecrated to Dromore in 1744, but in 1745 was translated to Kildare. It is possible that this fact will explain how Mr. Fforde obtained a Canonry of Kildare, having served under Dr. Fletcher when he held the See of Dromore. The Bishop would have much intercourse with Mr. Fforde as Vicar of Seagoe. Visitors to Old Shankill graveyard can still read the interesting inscription on Mr. Fforde's tombstone recording the fact that in his Will he desired that he should be buried on the North side of the Church so as to help to destroy the superstition that burial at the North side of a Church was wrong and unlucky.

\* \* \*

**A Testimony to the character and ability of the Rev. Arthur Fforde from the Records of Trinity College, Dublin.**

—A most interesting sidelight is thrown on the character and ability of the Rev. Arthur Fforde from a curious incident which occurred in the year 1727. It is recorded in Dr. Stubbs's History of the University of Dublin, p. 416, A sharp dispute had arisen between the Provost of T.C.D., Dr. Richard Baldwin, and the Senior Fellows of the College as to the appointment of a new Fellow of Trinity College. The Provost had nominated a certain Mr. John Pallisier to the post, but the Senior Fellows had as their nominee the future Vicar of Seagoe, Mr. Arthur Fforde. The Senior Fellows uttered their protest as follows.—1st, that Mr. Fforde gave better proof of diligence and constant attendance upon the Duties of this Society, and of an honest and Religious Conversation than Mr. Pallisier did or could do. 2nd, Because Mr. Fforde was superior to Mr. Pallisier in point of learning, good abilities and Modesty. 3rd, Because Mr. Fforde during the whole Examination for Fellowship never made one guess or one ignorant



or injudicious answer. The merit of more Modesty and a better judgment is manifestly his without the least abatement. The protest was signed by all the Senior Fellows, whose names are added—Richard Helsham, M.D. (a famous Scientist), Patrick Delany, D.D. (the famous Dean of Down and friend of Swift), William Thompson, D.D. (remembered as one of the three Fellows of T.C.D. who volunteered to go with Bishop Berkeley to Bermuda to found a Missionary College there), Robert Clayton, LL.D. (the well known Bishop of Clogher), and Jonathan Rogers, D.D. It is something for the Parishioners of Seagoe to remember and be proud of the fact that for 18 years at a very critical time in the history of the Parish it was controlled by such an eminent and faithful Vicar.

### Seagoe P.E. School.

A handsome name board has been fixed on the front of Seagoe School. It is now a rule of the Ministry of Education that the name of each Public Elementary School must be placed in a conspicuous position on the front of the School.

### ITEMS.

A substantial iron gate is being erected by the Sel Vestry at the entrance to the Grove Field.

\* \* \*

A coating of tarmac has been laid down along Seagoe Road from the town boundary to Carne corner. A new pathway has been very carefully made in front of the new villas in Upper Seagoe. Nice gardens have been made in front of all the villas.

\* \* \*

The July Anniversary Service will be held (p.v.) at Seagoe Parish Church on Sunday, July 12th, at 7 p.m.

\* \* \*

At the Choral Festival in Waringstown on Saturday, May 30, the Canticles will be sung for the first time to the new pointing.

\* \* \*

There is a remarkable scarcity of swallows this year, but the cuckoo is heard on every side.

\* \* \*

The betting and gambling mania is rife in the midst. It is destructive of all Christian and social virtues.

### 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 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 thank-offering. (See Book of Common Prayer.)

**MORNING PRAYER**—Sundays and Chief Festivals 8 p.m. during Advent and Lent.

**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.

**ADULT CLASSES**—Sundays at 10 a.m.

For Men—Edenderry. For Women—Seagoe School.

**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.

**DAY SCHOOL**—Seagoe, 9-30 a.m. Principal—Mr. R. Scott.

**MARRIAGES** must be performed between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Licenses are issued by Rev Canon Hannon, 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 3s per annum.