

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

MAY, 1910.

The Confirmation.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26th, 1910.

LARGE Classes are now being held through the Parish in preparation for the approaching Confirmation. Those in Edenderry and Seagoe are especially well attended. We are glad to notice the earnest spirit in which our young Church people are preparing for the solemn rite. Decision for Christ should be the keynote of all our classes. The youth of the Parish stands at the parting of the ways. We trust and pray that this Confirmation season may be the turning point in many a young life, and that the call of God will sound with irresistible pleading in the hearts of our Candidates, "My son—My daughter, give me thine heart." Some are still holding back from joining the Classes, and notwithstanding the invitation of the Clergy and the rule of the Church, they have not yet joined the happy band of Candidates who are looking forward with joy and hope to Confirmation. The lists will close next week, and the names of those who have joined will be sent forward to the Bishop for his approval. It will be a sad thing if any of those who might have joined will be missing from that list. Will parents please press upon their children who have not yet joined the Classes the necessity of joining at once. We hope no one will be deterred from coming, through any mistaken ideas as to dress or such things. There are many poor in the Parish, and we hope they will understand that nothing special is needed in this way. The plainer and simpler the clothing is, the more suitable will it be in a service where the thoughts and intents of the heart are the matters of utmost importance. We are very anxious that adults who have not yet been confirmed should come forward. The Clergy will be glad if such will send in their names to them without delay. There are a good many through the Parish who have joined the Church through marriage or from other causes, and who have been brought up in other denominations. It is most necessary that they should obtain the rights and privileges of full Church membership in Confirmation.

CLASSES.

FTHE attention of those who have not yet joined the Confirmation Classes is directed to the following list:—

Tuesdays—Carne Hall at 8 o'clock.

Drumgor Hall at 8 o'clock.

Wednesdays—Special Services in Church at 8.

Thursdays—Edenderry Hall 7.30 (girls), 8.15 (boys).

Hacknahay School at 7.30.

Fridays—Seagoe School at 8.

Sundays—Adult Class in Church at 4.15.

Offertories for April.

"Thy prayers and thine alms have come up for a memorial before God."—Acts x., 4.

		Morning.	Evening.
April 3rd.—1st S. aft. Easter	£1 5 10	0 6 1	
„ 10th.—2nd „	1 4 10	0 10 6	
„ 17th.—3rd „	1 6 7	0 11 9	
„ 24th.—4th „	0 19 0	0 10 8	
Week-Days			0 8 4
Total,	£4 16 3	£2 7 4	

Baptisms.

"A solemn vow, promise, and profession" (Baptismal Service).

April 2nd.—Florence, daughter of Alexander and Jane Eliza Hewitt.

„ „ —Eveline, daughter of Alexander and Annie Thornton.

Burials.

"Them also which sleep in Jesus, will God bring with Him."

April 8th.—Florence Hewitt, Tamnificarbet, aged 6 weeks.

April 10th.—Martha Allen, Balteagh, aged 79 years.

April 16th.—William John Gracey, Edenderry, aged 50 years.

April 29th—David Forde, Edenderry, aged 16 years.

A Sad Accident.

A very sad accident occurred on the evening of Friday, April 1st, by which one of the most promising and popular of our Seagoe lads lost his life. Wilson Guy, of Seagoe, had joined the navy some years ago, and had risen to the position of Chief Stoker. He was serving on H.M.S. Black Prince, stationed at Sheerness. The evening of April 1st was stormy, and through some accident the poor boy slipped off the boom, and in falling struck the launch which was anchored beside the ship. He fell into the rapidly flowing tide, and although every effort was made to save him he disappeared and was drowned. There was great grief on board the ship when it became known, and for four hours all hands tried to find the poor body, but without avail. Captain Barton, the Captain of the ship, himself an Irishman, wrote very touchingly regretting the loss of so popular a member of his crew. The deepest sympathy has been expressed for his sorrowing parents and sisters. The Misses Guy are foremost amongst our Church helpers, and their many friends have felt deeply for them in their sad loss. We pray that God may comfort and sustain the bereaved ones in their great affliction. "Thy way is in the sea, and thy paths in the great waters, and Thy footsteps are not known."

Band of Hope.

This month we have to draw our readers attention to the Closing Temperance Meeting of the Session. It was held in Edenderry Parochial Hall on April 8th, commencing at 8 p.m. A pleasing feature of the occasion was the good attendance of members of all ages, shewing that enthusiasm is not flagging. When all had joined in the opening prayer, the chairman proceeded to call attention to recent statistics which prove that 55 per cent. of the population are drinkers, and that the amount spent on an average per head is £6 5s per annum, a sum which would probably be found useful in most homes for providing some of its necessities of life. After this, we enjoyed songs sweetly rendered by some of our juniors, songs and duets by Miss Armstrong, and Mr. David Murray, a recitation by James Killow, and a dialogue by Charlie Killow and George Watson. Next we had a dialogue called "Paddy's Pledge" which evoked loud and prolonged applause, and provided admirable instruction. It lasted at least 30 minutes. Our thanks are due to Misses Irwin, Preston, and Martin, and to Messrs. R. Montgomery, and McKittrick, who represented the various characters.

An address having been given by Rev. J. W. Johnston, in which he alluded to the influence of children, and their ability to aid Temperance Work, votes of thanks were passed to Miss Armstrong and all who had assisted at all our meetings, and a most enjoyable meeting was closed by the chairman pronouncing the Benediction.

Ascension Day.

Thursday, May 5th, will be Ascension Day. On that day we call to mind one of the greatest facts in our Lord's life, His ascension into Heaven. We hope that many will spare time on that occasion to come to the House of Prayer. The East Window in Seagoe Church ought to impress upon all our worshippers the reality of that solemn event. Services will be held in the Church as follows on Ascension Day:—

9.50, Service for the Church Children attending Seagoe Day School.

11.30, Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion.

8, Evening Prayer and Sermon.

The three days preceding Ascension Day are called Rogation Days or Days of Asking. It is the time of the year specially set apart for asking a blessing from God on the seed sown in the fields. Our farmers, and others as well, should on these days offer up special petitions to God that He will bless their sown fields. They will find a special prayer in the Prayer Book to be used on Rogation Days. It is near the "Prayer for all sorts and conditions of men."

Whitsuntide.

Whit Sunday falls this year on May 15th. It is one of the great Festivals of the Church, and on it we commemorate the gift of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. This festival should be very specially observed in the Parish this year owing to the near approach of Confirmation. The parents and sponsors of those who are preparing for Confirmation should not fail to be present at Public Worship and to join in Holy Communion, preparing especially for the gift of the Spirit on those who will be confirmed. Services on Whitsunday—8 a.m. Holy Communion, 11.30 a.m., Morning Prayer, Sermon, and Holy Communion, 7 p.m., Evening Prayer and Sermon.

Men's Society.

It is proposed to start a branch of the newly-formed Church of Ireland Men's Society in the Parish immediately. The rule of membership is Prayer and Service; Members must be Communicants and over the age of 21, and there are Associates as well, who are not entitled to full membership by reason of age or otherwise. The rules of the Society have been drawn up by the Bishops of the Church of Ireland.

Hacknahay Day School.

This School is going ahead. It is most efficient as an educational instrument in the District. The Principal Teacher of Moyallon School having resigned, the National Board have agreed to consider its claims. When the case of Hacknahay comes under consideration in Dublin we shall have the satisfaction of feeling that the residents of the district are unanimous in their desire that this School should receive a grant from the Board.

Quarterly Returns.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE AND EFFICIENCY CARDS.

PRIZES (FULL MARKS).

Ethel Ruddell, Joseph Ruddell, James Ruddell.

FIRST RANK (60—65 pts).

Sarah Dawson 63; Jemima England 62; Jemima Allen 61; Sophia Webb 61; Bessie Dawson 61.

SECOND RANK (55—60 pts.)

Isabella Magee 59; Arthur Allen 58; William J. Wilson 56; Sophia Bradshaw 55.

THIRD RANK (50—55 pts.)

Minnie Allen 53; Maggie Magee 52; Adelaide Murray 52; Thomas England 52; Joseph Wilson 52; Maggie Bradshaw 52; Maggie Smith 52; Maggie Lewie 51; Theresa Ramsey 50; Minnie Lewie 50; Jennie Dawson 50; Leonard Haire 50; Henry Dickson 50.

Penny Collecting Cards.

The following have been received since last issue of Magazine:—

Rachel Stevenson 1/-; Ethel Preston 1/-; K. Blakely 6d; R. McKerr 3d; M. Hopps 1/2; Alice Best 1/-; Maggie Maxwell 4d; Hettie Wright 6d; Ethel Reid 1/-; T. Reid 4d; L. Guy 1/-; W. McMullan 1/-; L. Gracey 1/-; K. Moore 1/-; May Best 1/3; Margt. J. Best 1/3; J. Chambers 8d; L. Lewie 7d; M. Johnston 1/3; Minnie Lewie 1/-; Maggie Lewie 1/-; Jas. Lewie 1/-; John McDowell 1/-; Susan McDowell 1/-. Some names from Hacknahay Sunday School are omitted from this list but will be acknowledged in our next issue.

A Clothing Fund.

A great deal of good could be done in the Parish if some of the Parishioners who are blessed with this world's goods would from time to time entrust sums of money to the Parish Clergy for the part-purchase of Clothing for the poor. In the course of Parish visitation the Clergy continually come across cases where children in large families have to remain away from Sunday School or Church for considerable periods because their clothes have got worn out and the parents cannot afford to get them a new suit or a new dress. Some help given at such a time is a great advantage. It is only necessary to give part of the sum required, and of course great care is necessary that such help should only be given in really deserving cases. We commend this matter to those who are anxious to help their poorer brethren in a practical way.

Children's Flower Show.

Nearly one hundred pots of Seed and Plants have been purchased by the Parish Children for competition at the Flower Show in August. It was a pretty sight to see the children hugging their flower pots on the day they were distributed. They must take great care not to water the seeds too much or to leave them in an unsheltered place, and they must be careful not to let the baby or the pussy cat knock the flowers over. They are very bad gardeners. Already we have heard of one of the flower pots being knocked down and broken by a household cat who wasn't fond of flowers. We wonder are the seeds coming up yet. The geraniums are sure to blossom before long. Nice prizes have been offered for the children who send in the best flowers to the show.

Nature Notes.

A great deal of interest was taken in the Parish last month to see who would be the first to hear the Corncrake and Cuckoo, or to see the Swallows and Butterflies. Here is the result as far as we can ascertain it. April 13th, Corncrake first heard by Mark Hardy.

April 14th, Swallow first seen by James Killow, Levaghery.

April 26th, Cuckoo first heard at Seagoe.

Butterflies have been seen in many places since April 4th.

Items.

The Rev. T. W. E. Drury, Rector of Rostrevor, preached in the Parish Church on Wednesday, 27th inst.

The Lurgan Choral Festival takes place in Banbridge Parish Church, on Saturday, May 14th. Seagoe Choir is taking part in it.

On Friday, April 22nd, a "black shower" fell in Portadown and Seagoe District. The sky was very dark and heavily laden with Lancashire smoke.

The roads in Seagoe Parish have been recently very much cut up by heavy traction engine traffic. It is time the owners were made to pay for the damage.

Miss Maude Dickson has been appointed Organist at Tammifcarbet. It will be a great improvement to have music in the services there.

Several new members have joined the Sunday Morning Bible Classes. Mr. Chambers' class has recently largely increased in numbers.

Flowering plants have been placed in the windows of Seagoe Day School.

Seagoe Sunday School Excursion is fixed for Thursday, June 16th. Warrenpoint, the ever popular resort, is our destination. We hope for "Seagoe" weather.

The Rector has received several newspapers and postcards recently from Seagoe folk across the ocean.

We hope some of our people will attend the Special Week of May Meetings in Belfast, beginning on Monday, May 9th. An attractive programme has been issued.

A Belfast gentleman flew across Lough Neagh last week in an Aeroplane.

Our new Churchwardens have got to work. Mr. Collins is a son of a very faithful Churchman of past days, Mr. James Collins, of Kernan. The People's Churchwarden, Mr. Thos. Reid, is also the son of a great supporter of Seagoe Church in a past generation, Mr. Reid, of Tarson. It is a good thing to see the sons following faithfully in their fathers' steps.

The hedge around Seagoe School has been put into good order by two members of the Select Vestry Messrs. Calvert and Gracey.

When will we have an Infirmary in Portadown instead of having to send all our sick people miles away to Lurgan? The money expended on the care of the Portadown sick people in Lurgan could be much better spent in Portadown and would benefit the town.

We are glad to notice a movement for providing more and better house accommodation for the working classes in Portadown. There is at present a great deal of most unhealthy overcrowding in the working men's houses. Large families frequently occupy small unventilated dwellings.

Now that business is booming in Portadown and neighbourhood, workers should open an account in the Post Office Savings Bank. A small sum put by each week would soon mount up to a substantial amount. We know of a labouring man in Belfast who has built a street of houses through the exercise of thrift.

Two of the girls in Seagoe School Cookery Class are now able to bake all the bread required for use in their homes. Others can make rice puddings, bread puddings, scones, and soda bread. This proves how useful it is for our girls to attend the Day School Cookery Class.

The Archdeacon of Dromore (Ven. E. D. Atkinson, LL.B.), who is Rural Dean of Shankill, inspected Seagoe Church, its furnishings, Service Books, Communion Plate, and also the fabric of the Church last week. It is the duty of the Rural Dean to send in each year to the Bishop a statement of the condition of each Parish Church in his Deanery. The office of Rural Dean is one of the most ancient in the Church of Ireland. They succeeded the old tribal and Village Bishops when Diocesan Bishops were established in Ireland in the twelfth century.

Old Seagoe Notes.

Seagoe Infantry, 1809.—We continue our extracts from the standing orders for 1809.—The hair is to be worn neatly cropped agreeable to his Majesty's orders, the cap well put on and the tuft clean. Each man is to be provided with a black stock and the neck of the shirt is not to appear above it, being contrary to his Majesty's orders. Talking in the ranks is expressly forbid, any man guilty of this will have his pay for that day stopped. The Cloathing is to be kept as clean as possible. The cape, cuffs, and breeches may be made a good colour by dusting them well with pipe-clay and whiting and a small addition of powder-blue. The Commanding Officer hopes that an unanimous zeal for duty will pervade the whole corps, and that every member will give his utmost exertions towards bringing the Seagoe Infantry as near perfection as the nature of the Yeomanry Service will admit.

Seagoe in 1804.—It is interesting to recall in connection with the one hundredth anniversary of the death of the Rev. George Blacker, the first mention made in Seagoe Records of the building of the present Church. The first record of an intention to build a new Church occurs in the Vestry Minutes of April 30th, 1804. It runs as follows:—"A balance of £40 5s 3d being in the hands of the Rev. George Blacker, Vicar, it was agreed that this sum shall be laid out along with other money for the repairs of, *of building a new Church*, as may hereafter be approved of and appear necessary to the Parishioners. At a Vestry held on September 3rd, 1805, it was agreed that the sum of Twopence per acre be levied and collected off the Inhabitants by Mr. William Overend and Mr. Samuel Ruddle, Churchwardens of said Parish, and by them when collected given into

the hands of the Rev. George Blacker to be laid out in *building a new Church* or repairing the present Church of Sego as the Parishioners hereafter shall think proper, and the Cross Roads for this year shall lie over as they are.

The Rev. George Blacker.—Next Sunday, May 1st, will be the one hundredth anniversary of the death of the Rev. George Blacker who passed away to the deep regret of the people of Sego on May 1st, 1810, at the early age of 46. He was appointed Vicar of Sego by Faculty, May 20th, 1796, so had been Vicar just sixteen years at his death. He had been educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and obtained his degree of Bachelor of Arts in the year 1785. He held the united Parishes of Banagher and Dungiven along with the Vicarage of Sego, but resided here in the Rectory. He was the son of William Blacker, Esq., of Carrick. His mother was Letitia, daughter of Henry Cary, Esq., of Dungiven Castle, Co. Derry. He was one of a family of twenty-one children. His eldest brother was the Very Rev. Stewart Blacker, of Carrick, Dean of Leighlin, and later Rector of Seagoe. The Rev. Canon Blacker is a nephew of the late Rev. George Blacker. The Rev. Richard Olpherts who was Curate of Seagoe under the Rev. George Blacker was his nephew, being his sister's son. Mr. Olpherts initials "R.O." are inscribed on the stone let into the side wall of the Church tower.

CHURCHWARDENS OF SEAGOE (Continued):—

1700—Robert Thomson.

Thomas Gilpin.

1701—William Corner, of Mointoghs.

Ralph Wilson, of Levaghery.

1702—John Mathers, of Drumgor.

Thomas Workman, of Killykomaine.

1703—Antony Metcalf, of Sego.

Henry Ogle, of Drumgask.

1704—Robert Wilson, of Derryenvir.

Valentine Dines, of Tanafglasny.

1705—Valentine Harrison, of Moyraverty.

John McKnight, of Knockramer.

Townlands of Seagoe.—**Balteagh** means the town of the habitation of the Ford or adjoining the Ford.

Bocombra is said to mean The Hut of Companionship, or according to Dr. Todd, The Hut at the Meeting of Streams. Dr. Joyce, the famous Irish scholar, says the prefix 'Bo' means 'a cow.'

Breagh according to Lt. Col. Blacker means an eminence or hill with level top, but Joyce derives it from Bre-ach, a Wolf.

Carne is a name of frequent occurrence and means a heap of stones.

Carrickblacker.—The prefix Carrick is Irish for a ford or weir as e.g. Carrick-on-Shannon the ford or weir on the Shannon. The name therefore means Blacker's ford or weir.

Clanrolla is one of the prettiest of our townland names and has also a pretty meaning—the Meadow Recess or more literally "The Hollow of the Swathe." This latter is the meaning assigned to it in Lt. Col. Blacker's MS. Notes on Seagoe.