

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JUNE, 1936

EXCURSION TO WARRENPOINT

THURSDAY, JUNE 18th 1936

Tickets - 2/-

Train leaves Portadown at 9 55 a.m. ; Train leaves Warrenpoint at 8-40 p.m.

Refreshment Tickets, entitling to two Refreshments, 1/- each.

CLERGY :

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

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

CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's— Mr. ROBERT SCOTT.

People's—Mr. THOS. E. MAGINNIS.

Whitsuntide.

Whitsunday, which occurs this year on May 31st, is a Festival of great importance in the Church. It is the day on which Christian people all the world over commemorate the Descent of the Divine Spirit on the Church on the Day of Pentecost. Our Blessed Lord before His Ascension had told His Apostles to tarry at Jerusalem until they would be endued with "power from on high." This Divine gift was bestowed on them as they assembled together in the Upper Room. Whitsunday is the Birthday of the Church, and just as we celebrate our own birthdays, so we must not forget to mark the Birthday of the Church when it comes in the round of the Christian year. We will not forget to join in Public Worship and to kneel together at Holy Communion and thus feel that we have a share in the presence and power of the Divine Spirit. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion on Whitsunday at 8 a.m. in the Parish Church and after Morning Prayer in the Parochial Hall. The offerings at all Services will be given to the upkeep and repair of the Parochial School buildings.

Trinity Sunday.

Trinity Sunday occurs this year on June 7th. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion in the Parochial Hall.

The Excursion.

This year we go to Warrenpoint. It is always a great favourite with the excursionists. There is such variety there. The bathing and the wading are a constant pleasure. The shops, too, are so attractive with toys and sweets. The sail or drive to Rostrevor, and the climb to Fiddler's Green and the big stone at Cloughmore provide endless enjoyment to young and old. Best of all there is the splendid outlook of mountain and sea. This year we have secured the Pavilion in which to have our meals. Messrs. Davison are providing the two refreshments. The first refreshment will consist of a ham sandwich with a slice of Denny's best Portadown ham between two slices of Davison's finest bread, together with two pastries of special make. The second refreshment will consist of three buns and pastries. The best of tea will accompany each refreshment. Outsiders' tickets at 2/- each are now on sale. Secure your ticket as early as you can. As announced in our last issue, the children's tickets are 2/- each, including two refreshments. The train to Warrenpoint will leave Portadown station at 9.55 a.m., and the return train will leave Warrenpoint at 8.40 p.m. The train journey generally occupies about fifty-five minutes. A short Service will be held in the Parish Church at 8.45 a.m., and the procession, headed by our splendid C.L.B. Band, will march from there to the station. The Superintendent of each Sunday School will arrange the date for the distribution of the tickets to the children.

The Renovation of the Church.

The renovation of the Parish Church has made great progress during May. A fine steel scaffolding was erected round the tower to its full height. The four pinnacles were then repaired and strengthened. They had been in a

quite insecure condition. The walls of the tower were then stripped of their covering of plaster and dashing. It was then decided that the stonework was suitable for pointing. This has now been done and is a great improvement. The other walls of the Church will be treated in like manner. The interior of the Church has also been undergoing renovation. Flood lighting by electricity has been introduced into the chancel and the large brass gasolier has been removed. This gasolier was a great obstruction to a clear view of the fine east window. The walls of the Church have already received their covering of oil paint. A great change has been made in the appearance of the pews. The old dark staining has been removed and the fine natural colour and graining of the wood laid bare. Electric lights have also been fitted up at the various doors of the Church. Messrs. Collen Bros. have the contract for the outside renovation work, and Mr. Brownlee, of Edenderry, the painting of the inside of the Church.

Welcome.

We welcome back to Seagoe Mr. James M'Dowell and Mrs. M'Dowell, who have just crossed the Atlantic from their home in "Seagoe," Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A., and are staying in their house at Killicomaine. They are always very welcome visitors to the old Parish.

"A Rose in June."

This is the nice and poetical expression which tradition has handed down in Seagoe Parish to denote the "rent" paid on a freehold farm. If anyone were to ask on what terms such a farm is held the answer would be "A Rose in June." We wonder who first used the expression and when it first arose. Perhaps some of our readers could throw some light on its origin. It seems to imply that in former days, as also nowadays, Seagoe and its neighbourhood was prolific in roses.

Regret.

We regret very much that in our last issue we omitted to refer to an interesting Children's Service which took place in Drumgor Church Hall on the afternoon of Easter Day. It had been arranged by Mr. W. Hutchinson and the Ven. Archdeacon Hannon gave the address. During the Service the Archdeacon dedicated two new collecting plates for use at the Services in the Hall. The Rector and the Rev. W. F. Hayes were also present. The Hall was crowded and had been prettily decorated with flowers.

Lurgan Choral Festival.

This annual event in which Seagoe choir takes part, will be held in Dromore Cathedral on Saturday, May 30th, at 4 p.m. Mr. Smith, the popular organist of Shankill Parish Church, will conduct the musical part of the Service. Dromore Cathedral, where the Service will be held, is an ancient and most interesting building. It dates from A.D. 1100. The great Bishop Jeremy Taylor is buried there. His last words were "Bury me at Dromore." Bishop Percy resided there for over 30 years, and during that time was a great literary figure in the life of his day. He lived at the Old See House on the hill opposite the Cathedral. The bridge over the Lagan beside the Cathedral was built to commemorate Bishop Percy's episcopate.

The Parochial Hall.

During the renovation of the Church it was found impossible to hold the usual services in the Church. Permission was given by the Lord Bishop to hold services in the Parochial Hall. They have been well attended by the parishioners. Mr. T. H. Wilson has presided at the American organ, and the singing has been very hearty.

Sympathy.

During the month we have lost through death some very faithful parishioners. On May 1st Rhoda Guy passed to her eternal rest after a very brief illness. Her services at the Rectory during almost twenty years were much appreciated and her kindly and genial manner won her many friends. Her funeral on Sunday, May 3rd, was largely attended. We offer our sincere sympathy to her sister, Miss Agnes Guy. Within the last few days death has carried away, after a brief illness, James Best, of Balteagh. He was working up to within a few days of his death. He was highly esteemed by all who knew him and he was a valued helper in our Drumgor district. We offer our deep sympathy to his wife and little ones and to his aged mother. Their loss is a sore one. We regret also the death of Mrs. Browne, of Edenderry, who had been seriously ill for a lengthened period. Mrs. Margaret Anne Colbert, of Armagh, formerly Miss M'Keown, of Edenderry, was well known to a past generation and many will regret her loss.

Parish Register for May.

Baptisms

Donaldson—May 2nd, 1936, Clifford Carlisle, son of David and Margaret Agnes Donaldson, Edenderry.

Sponsors—Elizabeth Myrtle Wright, Margaret Agnes Donaldson.

Somerville—May 2nd, 1936, Thomas William Alexander Robert, son of Robert and Rebecca Somerville, of Hacknahay.

Sponsors—Ellen Carson, Rebecca Somerville.

PRIVATELY BAPTIZED.

Kilpatrick—May 7th 1936, Jeanette, twin daughter of William James and Edith Kilpatrick, of Levaghery.

Kilpatrick—May, 7th, 1936, James, twin son of William James and Edith Kilpatrick, of Levaghery.

Burials.

Brown—May 4th, 1936, Ellen Brown, of Kernan, aged 74 years.

Best—May 6th, 1936, James Best, of Belfast, aged 54 years.

Colbert—May 11th, 1936, Margaret Anne Colbert, of Armagh, aged 67 years.

Best—May 26th, 1936, James Best, of Balteagh, aged 51 years.

C.L.B. Inspection

On Friday, May 28th the annual inspection of the Seagoe C.L.B. was held at 8 p.m. in the Parochial Hall. The Inspecting Officer was Colonel H. Friers, the Colonel of the Battalion. He was accompanied by Major Heuston, of the Knock (Belfast) Company. Captain Mitchell was in command of the lads. It was a most interesting display and both the Cadets and the Training Corps acquitted themselves splendidly. At an interval in the proceedings tea was provided. Before leaving the Colonel congratulated the lads on their fine bearing and general smartness. He specially congratulated the Band on their efficiency. The Rector expressed his thanks to Colonel Friers for his encouraging words and useful advice. At the close of the inspection prizes were awarded for Church and Drill Attendance and for other items of efficiency. The following is a list of the awards:—Cadets, 1st L/cpl. Wm. Donaldson; 2nd, Pte. Jack Best. Training Corps—1st Pte. David Moore; 2nd, L/cpl. J. Simpson and Pte. Davison; 3rd, Pte. Chas. Johnston and Pte. Victor M'Neill.

O'Grady Drill Down—Cadets—1st, Pte. Geo. Lyness; 2nd, Sergt. A. Heyburn. Training Corps—1st, L/cpl. J. Simpson; 2nd, L/cpl. J. Bateson.

Promotions—Cadets, Pte. T. Lyness promoted L/cpl. Training Corps—Pte. David Moore pro-

moted L/cpl. Training Corps, awarded good Conduct Stripes—Pte. Thos. Currie, Pte. Geo. Hunter, Pte. Jim M'Cormick.

Seagoe Mothers' Union.

At the last meeting of the Mother's Union held on May 12th in Seagoe School a most interesting and helpful address was given by Mrs. Davison, of Clare, Waringstown, on the subject of "The Hands of Christ." The Rector presided and at the close of the meeting expressed the thanks of the members to Mrs. Davison for her address.

Protestant Orphan Society.

The annual collections for the Co. Armagh Protestant Orphan Society will be made in Seagoe Parish Church on Sunday, June 28th, at Morning and Evening Prayer.

Twenty-five Years ago.

JUNE, 1911.

In this former issue of the Magazine there is a prominent notice of a forthcoming excursion to Warrenpoint on June 13th, 1911, Tuesday. The train is to leave Warrenpoint at 7.30 p.m. On Thursday, June 22nd, King George V. and Queen Mary are announced to be crowned. A special service is to be held in Seagoe Parish Church at 11.30 on Coronation Day. New gates are just erected at Seagoe School. The boys attending Seagoe School have got neat caps with the letters S.N.S. embroidered on them. Four Baptisms, three Marriages and three Burials are recorded. There is a note on "Fairy Stones" in Seagoe. There is also a note on the making of the railway in Seagoe in 1838.

Old Seagoe Notes.

Seagoe Great East Window, March, 1896.—A particularly interesting service was held in the Parish Church of St. Gobhan, Seagoe, near Portadown, on the 6th March, 1896. The occasion was the dedication of a beautiful east window, just placed in the Church by the Baroness von Stieglitz, of Carrickblackler. The weather was cold and stormy, frequent squalls of rain following each other; but, notwithstanding this drawback, the Church was well filled.

Evensong began at three o'clock, when the Bishop and his chaplain, preceded by twenty-eight clergymen, entered the church during the singing of "For all Thy Saints." Dean Dawson, Dr. Quirk, and Mr. Leslie said the prayers; and Archdeacon Harding and Canon Blacker read the Lessons. Psalms 84 and 132 were chanted to Elvey No. 27, and Bentham No. 128. Mr. C. M. Wilson, Mus. Bac., organist of the Cathedral of Down, played the accompaniments, and I was glad to see him wearing his surplice and hood. There was a large choir, and they ren-

dered the psalms, canticles, and hymns with precision and devout expression.

A word of commendation is deserved by the order of the Service, with copies of which all present were supplied. It was well and clearly printed, and contained the complete words, together with a brief note of the special gifts that were being dedicated.

Immediately after the Creed, the Bishop, standing near the east window, with uplifted hand, pronounced the form of dedication, saying, "We dedicate this window to the praise and glory of God, and in sacred memory of Stewart Blacker; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

The stained-glass window is a fine work of art, and has been executed by Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Bayne, at a cost of £300. The subject illustrated is the Ascension. Our Blessed Lord, rising towards the glory which streams from above, occupies the centre; below in the distance are the roof tops of the city of Jerusalem. In the foreground are "the eleven" in various postures of devout wonder, gazing up into heaven. While in the tracery of the beautiful perpendicular stone-work are angels and stars above "the cloud," the apex being occupied by a crown, presumably that of glory. The colouring is delicate and subdued, and the drawing most lifelike. Mr. Drew, the architect of the Church, gave the instructions to the artists, which is a guarantee for the propriety of the treatment and execution.

On the north wall of the chancel has been placed a large brass, the work of Messrs. Singer & Sons, of Frome. This has been presented by the parishioners to record their gratitude to the generous family of Carrick-Blacker, to whom

their parish owe so much. This brass bears the following historical and deeply interesting inscription:—

"To the glory of God, and in record of the munificence of Stewart Blacker, of Carrick-Blacker, Esquire, deceased anno 1881, and his surviving sister, Dame Hester Anna, Baroness Von Stieglitz, to this parish of Seagoe.

"They, following the pious example of their forefathers (of whom it is on record that Valentine Blacker rebuilt, about 1662, the ancient parish church, ruined in the rebellion of 1641; and the Very Rev. Stewart Blacker, Dean of Leighlin, with the Rev. George Blacker, vicar, by their exertions, built this church in 1816). in 1876 by a gift of £1,000, and an advance to the vestry of £1,600, secured to the parish, at the disestablishment of the Irish Church, a parochial endowment fund now, in 1896, amounting to £6,710. In 1891 the Baroness Von Stieglitz generously aided the parishioners in the rebuilding of the nave of this parish church and the erection of the south aisle, and at her sole cost, added the chancel in loving memory of her aforesaid brother, Stewart Blacker, providing it with suitable furniture, and adorning it with many costly gifts and offerings towards the comely and reverent worship of Almighty God, and in 1896 she presented the glazing of the great east window in sympathetic accord with the grace and beauty of the house of God.

"We glorify God in the behalf of these benefactions, and humbly pray that they may be had in everlasting remembrance before Him.—Abraham Dawson, A.M., Dean of Dromore and rector of Seagoe; George Calvert, John Lavery, churchwardens."

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, 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 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 3/- per annum.