

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

DECEMBER, 1938

CLERGY :

REV. J. W. APPELBE, M.A., B.D., Carriekblacker Ave.

REV. W. F. HAYES, B.A., L.Th., The Bungalow,
Lower Seagoe.

CHURCHWARDENS:

Rector's—THOMAS MARTIN.

People's—H. A. CATHCART.

THE CLERGY WILL ESTEEM IT A FAVOUR IF
IN CASES OF SICKNESS THEY ARE INFORMED
IMMEDIATELY.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER.

December 1st—Levaghery Social Evening in Orange Hall.

December 4th—2nd Sunday in Advent.

December 6th—Bocombra Monthly Service at 8 p.m.

December 7th—Advent Service in Church at 8 p.m.

December 8th—"Irish Night" in Drumgor.

December 11th—Third Sunday in Advent.

December 13th—Mothers' Union Meeting at 7.30 p.m.

December 14th—Advent Service in Church at 8 p.m.

December 18th—4th Sunday in Advent.

December 21st—St. Thomas.

Advent Service in Church at 8 p.m.

December 25th—Christmas Day.

December 26th—St. Stephen.

December 27th—St. John.

December 28th—Holy Innocents Day.

ADVENT.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to Judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through Him who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.

The above prayer is the collect appointed to be used throughout the season of Advent. In this collect we have brought before us the thoughts that should be uppermost in our minds at this season. The word "Advent" means coming, at this time we are called to think of the "Comings" of Christ.

THE FIRST COMING.

First He came down to this world "in great humility" to live as a man amongst men in order to rescue us from sin and selfishness, to show us what God was really like, to show what we should be like and could be like, when we lived according to God's plan for us, and to make available for us by His Death and Resurrection grace or help to enable us to live as God's children. As we think of His first coming to save us we are filled with hope and wonder and thankfulness; it gives us hope and encouragement because that first coming brings home to us our value in God's sight, as the Nicene Creed puts it, it was "for us men and for our salvation" that He came; we wonder at the humiliation involved, for He who came as a little child was, and is still, the Lord of Heaven and Earth—"He was in the beginning with God and by Him all things were made," and yet He gladly laid aside for a while "the Glory which He had with Father before the world was" and took our human nature upon Him, being content for our sakes to lead a life of hardship, disappointment and self-sacrifice which eventually brought Him to the bitter Cross. We cannot but be thankful when we recall His condescension. St. Paul was thinking of this when he wrote to the Philippian Christians, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. Advent then reminds us of the seeking love of God in coming down to this world in Christ Jesus so that we might know Him and live as His children in the fellowship of His Church.

II. HIS COMING TO US NOW.

This brings us to another note of the Advent collect. Jesus Christ, who first came in great humility is ever seeking to come to each one of us, that living in our hearts, He may enable us to cast away the works of darkness and put upon us His armour of light. But we must remember that He will not, He cannot come to us until we come to Him. "Come unto Me, all ye who labour and are heavy laden and I will refresh you," He still says. We must open our hearts to Him and enthrone Him as King there. Jesus saves no one against his will. We must feel our need of His grace, i.e., His help, and we must desire it before He will give it to us. Advent-tide calls us to remember that unless we come to Jesus now for forgiveness for past failures, for power to do better in the future, His first

coming will be of no avail for us. When we come to Him in private prayer and public worship, He will come to us to save us from the works of darkness. Are we making the most of these means of grace?

III. "AND HE SHALL COME AGAIN TO JUDGE BOTH THE QUICK AND THE DEAD."

The Advent collect brings before us the wonder of Christ's first coming nineteen hundred years ago, it reminds us, too, that we must come to Him now for grace before He can come to us to fashion in us the likeness of Himself, but it does more, it points us to the future, Christ has come in the past, He is ever coming to us in the present, but He will come one day to be our judge. There will be a day of reckoning, or as St. Paul puts it, "We must all stand before the judgment seat of God." Christ, who has given us the gift of life and opportunities of serving Him, He who by His Cross and passion has made available for us the grace of God, will one day require an account of our stewardship of the gift of life, and the offer of grace sufficient for all our needs. This is the sterner side of the Advent message. Let us thank God for it, for amid the cares of the world we might forget that our future destiny depends upon our daily lives here and now. "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

To sound this threefold Advent note is one of the reasons why we have in our Church mid-week services. It is hoped that as many of our parishioners as can do so will attend these special services on the Wednesdays in Advent at 8 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year. There will be Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and after Morning Prayer at 11.30 a.m.

Evening Prayer at 7 p.m., at which Carols will be sung.

Christmas Day commemorates God's greatest Gift to us in sending His Son into this world. It is especially the Children's festival, for Christ came as a little child, thereby enhancing and uplifting the status of little children. But Christmas is more than a time of festivity, it speaks to us of God stooping down to lift us up. It is a time of joy and gladness, but unless we see in it, above all else, God speaking to us, we will miss the real joy and wonder of it. It speaks to us of something God has done for us.—He has drawn near to us that we might be enabled and encouraged to draw near to Him. Are we going to let this anniversary pass without trying to make a worthy response to Him? What better response could we make than doing as His Son has requested us to do, "This do in remembrance of Me." It is a sad fact that so many professing Christians treat this

solemn command about Holy Communion so lightly, as if Christ did not mean what He said. The Lord's Supper, as it is sometimes called was not meant by Christ, to be only for a few, who think themselves very good. There is nobody good enough to partake of that holy feast. If we were good enough we would not need it; it is a means of grace, that is a channel or instrument by which Christ can make us better and remind us of our friendship with Him and His friendship with us. Let us see to it then, that every adult member of our parish will be at one of the Communion Services on Christmas Day.

DECORATIONS.

Simple decorations will be put up in the Church on Saturday, December 24th, at 2 p.m. Gifts of greenery, flowers, etc., will be very acceptable and should be left in at the Church on Saturday morning. We hope that helpers will come along to arrange them.

MOTHERS' UNION.

The monthly meeting was held in Seagoe School on Tuesday, November 8th, when a most helpful talk was given by Mrs. Magill, of Milltown Parish.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 13th, at 7.30 p.m., in Seagoe School. The Rev. G. A. Boulger, M.A., of Ardmore, has kindly promised to speak. After the formal meeting the members of the M.U. hope to have cakes, etc., for sale, and each member is asked to bring a friend, and to bring something and to buy something. We understand that the proceeds of this will go to the New Rectory Fund, as the members of the M.U. are aiming at raising £100 for this object.

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Superintendent and teachers of Levaghery Sunday School are organising a social evening in Edenderry Orange Hall on Thursday, December 1st, at 7.30 p.m.

The Superintendent and teachers of Drumgor are getting up a concert in Drumgor on Thursday, December 8th, at 8 p.m. It will take the form of an "Irish Night," i.e., Irish songs, airs, sketch, etc.

CONGRATULATIONS.

The results of the Essay Competition for school children in connection with the recent Portadown Civic Week have just been published. The following are the prize-winners from Seagoe P.E.S.:—First, Helen M'Murray, Ronald Thompson; second, Mabel Ruddleil, Jim Porter.

We were glad to notice the names of the following Seagoe children in list of prize-winners from Edenderry P.E.S.—Elizabeth Reid, Tom Gracey, Brian M'Court, Molly Maxwell, Mary Gracey, and Maurice Liggett.

EDENDERRY MID-WEEK SERVICES.

The attendance at these Services has been quite encouraging. They will be discontinued during Advent, and it is hoped that even more will attend them when they are resumed after Christmas.

THE ARMISTICE ANNIVERSARY.

There was a fine turn-out of ex-Servicemen parading on Sunday, November 6th, to Seagoe Parish Church at 11.30 a.m., when the annual service of remembrance was held. The special preacher was the Rev. Herbert Lindsay, Rector of St. Bartholomew's Parish, Belfast, who took as his theme "National Sowing and National Reaping," and outlined the Christian answer to the question:—Why did God allow the War? The collection was in aid of the Earl Haig Poppy Day Fund.

The Seagoe C.L.B. Band, Cadets and Training Corps paraded under the charge of Capt. E. Mitchell, and after the Church Service there was a short service at the War Memorial gates, when a beautiful wreath was laid on behalf of the C.L.B.

OBITUARY.

After a long, tedious illness, Cecil M'Loughlin has been called to the Home above where "there is no more pain." He was a fine lad and a great favourite with all who knew him. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his grandparents and relatives in their sorrow. May He, who once said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me," comfort and sustain them at this time.

NOTICE.

The financial year of this Parish ends on December 31st. Amounts received after that date may not be in time to appear in the Parish Financial Report, which will be printed early in the New Year.

The Hon. Secretary of the W.F.O. and the Hon. Treas. would be greatly helped if parishioners would send in their annual subscriptions to the Sustentation Fund or arrears of W.F.O. Envelopes, as soon as possible.

G.F.S.

Would all members, who are making articles in connection with the work party, please return them to Mrs. Appelbe, finished or unfinished, as soon as possible.

W.F.O., 1939.

The sets of Weekly Freewill Envelopes for 1939 will be distributed in December. It is hoped that every parishioner, who can do so, will take a set. Every year a number of young people become wage-earners; when

they do so they should procure a set of envelopes, and thus help the work of the Church in this parish. Those requiring sets should send their name to Mr. J. H. Twinem, Hon. Secretary of the W.F.O., or any member of the Select Vestry, who will gladly supply a set.

C.L.B.

As we go to Press the Seagoe Company of the Church Lads' Brigade are busy preparing for their annual inspection, which takes place on Tuesday, November 29th, at 7.30 p.m.

The inspecting officer will be Col. Waring, the new Colonel in command of Down, Connor and Dromore Battalion. We hope to give an account of the inspection in our next issue.

HARVEST THANK-OFFERING APPEAL.

We acknowledge with thanks the following subscriptions towards the above which have come to hand since October 23rd:—

Neill, Mr. R. and Miss E.	..	..	0	10	0
Stanfield, Mr. and Mrs	..	..	9	10	0
Stanfield, Miss Gladys	..	..	0	2	6
Stanfield, Miss Helen	..	..	0	2	6
Thornton, Miss E.	..	..	0	0	3
Thompson, Miss Emily (senr.)	..	..	0	1	0

£1 6 3

Already acknowledged £108 8 6

Total £109 14 9

NEW RECTORY BUILDING FUND.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions since our last issue:—

Mrs. Magee, Drumnacanvey	..	£0	3	9
Joseph Fisher & Sons, Newry	..	2	2	0
Mr. Jacob Sandford, Hacknahay	..	10	0	0
Mr. Geo. McNeill, Ballymacrandle	..	0	5	0
Mr. John Ramsey, Kernan	..	1	0	0
Mr. Ephraim Collins, Kernan	..	1	0	0
Mr. Joseph Stevenson, Drumgor	..	1	0	0
Mrs. David McKane, Ballymacrandle	..	0	10	0
Mr. Thos. Clarke, 5, Levaghery Gardens	..	0	2	6
Mr. Saml. Morrison, 25, Levaghery Gardens	..	0	2	6
Mrs. Baird, 22, Levaghery Gardens	..	0	2	6
Mr. Thos. Laverty, 19, Levaghery Gardens	..	0	2	6
Mr. Charles Clarke, 3, Levaghery Gardens	..	0	2	6

£16 13 3

Already acknowledged £400 2 7

Total £416 15 10

BAPTISMS.

"Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of God."

Nov. 6th—Winifred, daughter of Robert and Olive Elizabeth Allen, The Cottage, Lower Seagoe.

BURIALS.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours."

Nov. 4th—Cecil M'Loughlin, Killicomaine, aged 15 years.

Nov. 14th—Letitia Cooke, 9 Rugby Road, Belfast, aged 90 years.

Nov. 17th—William H. M'Adam, Ballyworkan, aged 81 years.

ARMAGH PROTESTANT ORPHAN SOCIETY.

Before the end of December a card collection will be made in the parish for this worthy object. Last year we sent in over £18 from the Harvest Thanksgiving collection; this year we were unable to give a collection, but we must make a worthy contribution from this parish, as for the last few years the Armagh P.O.S. has paid over £30 per annum to help our or-

phans. We hope when the collector calls our people will respond generously. The cause of the "fatherless and the widow" is one that is very dear to the heart of Christ, and has always been, and rightly so, an object which has a prior claim on the charitable activities of Christians.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The new Calendars and Teachers' Notes were in the hands of the Sunday School Teachers in time for the first Sunday of the new Sunday School year, i.e., November 27th, Advent Sunday.

Teachers are asked to follow the Calendar strictly each Sunday, both for the lesson and repetition. Parents can help considerably by encouraging their children to learn their repetition, and also by seeing that the children are in time. The two morning Sunday Schools commence punctually at 10.15 a.m., and the afternoon ones at 3 p.m.

Superintendents and Teachers are asked to employ the 5 system of marking for the coming year, i.e., to give 5 instead of 1 to each child as a full mark. The 5 full mark is made up thus:—Repetition, 2; Church attendance previous Sunday, 1; being in time, 1; bringing Hymn Book and Bible, 1.

To do this satisfactorily a separate roll for each teacher is necessary. These can be obtained free from the Rector, who will gladly explain it to any Superintendent or teacher wishing to adopt it.

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 Sunday of each Month at 4 p.m., and during any Service in the Parish Church, notice to be given; Two Sponsors at least are required. The father and mother must be present. 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 3 p.m.

Edenderry—Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Oct—Easter.

MARRIAGES must be performed between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Licences are issued by Ven. Archdeacon Hannon, the Rector, Lurgan. Due notice (48 hours) must be given to the Rector of intended weddings. **FEES**—By License—Labourers 5/., Tradesmen 10/., Merchants and Farmers £1, 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 by post to any subscriber for 3/- per annum.

CLASSES, &c.

BIBLE CLASS FOR MEN in Edenderry on Sundays at 10.15 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—10.15 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.

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

G.F.S. CANDIDATES—Oct.—Easter, Edenderry Parochial Hall, Saturdays at 3 p.m.

SEAGOE P.E. SCHOOL—9.15 a.m. Principal—Mr. R. Scott.