

# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

MAY, 1940.

## CLERGY:

REV. J. W. APPELBE, M.A., B.D., Seagoe Rectory.

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

## CHURCHWARDENS.

Rector's—GEORGE LEAKE.

People's—J. R. REID.

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

## CALENDAR FOR MAY.

May 1st—St. Philip and St. James.

May 2nd—Ascension Day.

Holy Communion at 11.30 a.m.

May 5th—Sunday after Ascension.

May 12th—Whitsunday.

Monthly Service in Drumgor at 3 p.m.

May 14th—Mothers' Union Meeting at 7.30 p.m.

May 19th—Trinity Sunday.

May 26th—1st Sunday after Trinity.

Monthly Service in Hacknahay at 3.30 p.m.

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES.

BOYS—Parish Church, Sundays, at 3 p.m.

GIRLS—Parish Church, Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

## NEW ORGANIST.

Mr. Norman Hamilton, of Lurgan, has been appointed organist of Seagoe Parish Church, and will take up his new duties on Sunday, May 5th. He has had considerable experience, having been organist of Aghalee Parish Church for six years, and as well has been deputy-organist in Shankill Parish Church, Lurgan. We pray that under his leadership Seagoe Choir will maintain its high standard.

We are grateful to Miss A. McDougall for playing during April.

## MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. T. H. WILSON.

The Select Vestry feel that something should be done to perpetuate the memory of the long and faithful service of our late organist, and they are confident that this proposal will meet with the full approval and support of the parishioners. They propose to have the organ overhauled and cleaned and to put a brass plate suitably inscribed on the organ, recording the unique record of the late Mr. T. H. Wilson. This indeed will be a fitting tribute to one who played for sixty-eight years and as well it will give us an opportunity of putting the organ into proper order. Nothing of this nature has been done since the organ was installed; it is very necessary, as unless periodic overhauls are

carried out, grievous damage might ensue to the organ, which is a valuable and beautiful instrument.

It is reckoned that about £60 will be needed for this, and it is hoped that when the appeal is launched in the near future it will meet with a quick and generous response.

## DAFFODIL TEA.

On Thursday, April 4th, this very successful entertainment was held in the Parochial Hall, Edenderry. The Sunday School teachers of the morning and afternoon combined, and with the help of friends, provided a sumptuous tea. Daffodils were in evidence as decorations. The purpose of the entertainment was to raise funds for Sunday School prizes, etc.

After tea, a most interesting and varied programme was given by the following artistes:—Pianoforte duets, the Misses Betty Young and Mary Gracey; Miss Harrison, recitation and song; Mr. Jos. Hynes, songs; step dancing, the Misses Maureen M'Nally and Betty Lutton, Averil Little, Esther Hinds, accompanied by Master Eric Gates on the violin; Miss Audrey Mitchell, pianoforte solo; sketch by Miss S. Maginnis and Miss Walker; Master Clifford Mitchell, recitation; Miss S. Tweedie, songs; a sketch by the pupils of Balteagh P.E.S. (sketch written and produced by Mr. L. Bell).

Miss T. Wilson kindly acted as accompanist.

The programme was well up to the standard of recent years, and all concerned are to be congratulated on the success of the evening.

We print below the financial result and details as to how it has been spent:—

Subscriptions to Daffodil Tea	..	..	£10	0	0
Subscriptions received later	..	..	1	7	0
					<hr/>
Total subscriptions	..	..	£11	7	0
Less Expenses:—					
Mrs. Vance ..	..	..	£3	0	10
“Portadown Times” ..	..	..	0	6	0
Mr. W. H. Best ..	..	..	0	3	0
Mrs. Vennard ..	..	..	0	5	0
Mr. Jackson ..	..	..	0	6	3
Prizes (morning and evening)	..	..	6	7	0
					<hr/>
				10	18 1
Balance	..	..	..	£0	8 11

## MOTHERS' UNION.

At the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, April 9th, there was a good attendance of members, and a most helpful address was given by Miss Wightman. The annual election took place, the office-bearers and committee being re-elected.

A report was given of the activities of the work party up to the end of March. Over 200 articles, including socks, mufflers, mittens, gloves, caps, pyjamas, helpless shirts, bed-jackets have been sent in to the local British Red Cross Hospital Supply Depot.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14th, in Seagoe School at 7.30 p.m., when it is hoped that the Rev. W. G. Kerr, M.A., Rector of Mulla-brack, will give an address.



**NEW RECTORY BUILDING FUND.**

The Hon. Treas. for the above gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following subscriptions:—

Mr. Ernest Preston, Levaghery ..	£1 0 0
Mr. H. Sinnamon, Levaghery ..	0 10 0
Mr. S. Watters, Goban St. ..	1 0 0
Mrs. J. Roney, Goban St. ..	1 0 0
Mrs. Ballantine, Lower Seagoe ..	1 0 0
Mr. Robt. Walker, Lower Seagoe ..	1 0 0
Mrs. W. Neill and family, Lower Seagoe ..	1 0 0
Mr. W. Hall, Lower Seagoe ..	0 10 0
Mrs. Jos. McLaughlin, Lower Seagoe ..	0 5 0
Mrs. Norman Guy, Derryvore ..	1 0 0
Mr. George Matchett, Derryvore ..	0 10 0
Mrs. Samuel Guy, Derryvore ..	0 5 0
Mrs. W. J. McLoughlin, Drumnagoon ..	1 0 0
Mr. George Wilson, Lower Seagoe ..	1 0 0
The Late Mr. T. H. Wilson (Estate of), Lower Seagoe ..	1 0 0
Mrs. F. Metcalf, Lower Seagoe ..	0 12 0
Mr. David Cordy, Carne ..	1 0 0
Mr. Wilson McKinney, Carne ..	1 0 0
Mr. A. Kirk, Ballinacor ..	1 0 0
Mr. Geo. Connolly, Carne ..	0 3 0
Mr. Wm. Simpson, Carne ..	0 2 0
Mr. Jas. Atkinson, Tarson ..	0 10 0

£16 7 0

Already acknowledged .. 609 1 1

Total .. £625 8 1

**SIDESMEN—MAY.**

Morning Prayer—The Churchwardens, Messrs. S. McCormick, Gilbert Price, Foster Shanks, Jos. Ward.

Evening Prayer—Messrs. N. Campbell, Thos. Gracey, Wm. Hewitt, S. D. Walker, Geo. Nixon, Holmes White.

**JUNE.**

Morning Prayer—The Churchwardens, Messrs. J. Gee, Thos. Hall, Wm. White, D. Sherman.

Evening Prayer—Messrs. G. Wilson, D. Allen, H. Ellis, Wm. Neill, R. M'Murray, J. McLoughlin.

**C.L.B. BATTALION SERVICE.**

The annual Battalion Service for the Church Lads' Brigade will be held in St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, on Tuesday, May 14th, at 8.15 p.m. Seats will be reserved for ex-members. Members of Church Choirs are invited to augment the Cathedral Choir at this Service. The Seagoe Company, as is their custom, will attend the parade.

**THE LATE MISS HALLIDAY.**

Her many friends in this parish and especially in Edenderry regret much the death of Miss Sarah Halliday, which occurred suddenly in Belfast last week. For

many years she was a regular worshipper and an enthusiastic Church worker in Seagoe. She took a keen interest in the work of the Sunday School at Edenderry, where she conducted the senior girls' Bible class. Miss Halliday's bright disposition and her devotion to duty will be long remembered.—(W.F.H.)

**SOUTH AMERICAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**

1939-1940.

Boxes for Support of Indian Girl:—

Drumgor Sunday School. ..	£0 15 9½
Hacknahay Sunday School ..	1 0 0
Seagoe Sunday School ..	1 17 11
Seagoe Mothers' Union for Support of Indian Baby ..	3 0 0
Harvest Offertories ..	3 11 6
Collection at Missionary Meeting ..	0 17 9
Children's Services ..	1 5 10

Boxes:—

Miss Calvert ..	0 7 3
Miss Agnes Guy ..	0 5 1½
Mrs. M'Dougall ..	0 2 9
Miss S. Montgomery ..	0 8 1
Miss D. Montgomery ..	0 3 0
Mrs. H. Sloan ..	0 4 2
Miss Reid ..	0 10 0
Mrs. J. Walker ..	0 3 7
Miss M'Combie ..	0 13 7½
Mr. and Mrs. Cathcart ..	0 10 2

Card:—

Miss Atkinson's Card ..	5 10 0
	£21 6 6

**OBITUARY.**

Reference has been made above to the passing of Miss Halliday; yet another old parishioner, Mr. Samuel Boyd, has been called to higher service. Samuel Boyd, for the past few years had been living in the parish of Tartaraghan; previous to this he resided in this parish, and though an invalid his bright and cheerful bearing was an inspiration to all who knew him. We tender our sympathy to the members of his family.

**BAPTISMS.**

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

April 7th—Aileen Margaret, daughter of Robert James and Dorothy Florence Elizabeth Woolsey, 17, Margretta Park.

April 7th—Mary Christabel, daughter of John Andrew and Emma Christabel Hughes, Ballymacrandle.

April 9th—Francis William Henry, son of Francis and Sarah Brown, 7, Bright St. (Privately).

**BURIALS.**

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

April 3rd—Samuel Boyd, Derrykeeran, Portadown, aged 67 years.



## WHAT DOES BEING A CHRISTIAN MEAN?

[The following sermon was preached by the Rev. W. F. Hayes on Sunday morning, April 14th. Those who were privileged to hear it will be glad to read it again, and we feel there are many who were not present who would be helped by reading it.]

2nd Cor., 5: 14—"The love of Christ constraineth us."

The advertisements in a paper make interesting reading. In some papers, unfortunately, this is the only interesting part. Sometimes you read this kind of advertisement—A Christian girl desires a situation in a Christian home. Or an old lady wants somebody to keep her company and to drive her motor car; so she advertises for someone from whom she is pleased to require, among many other qualifications, the profession to be a Christian. When we read that type of advertisement it rather grates upon our better feelings because his use of the term Christian is very exclusive. We feel, and I think not unfairly, that the people, who use the word thus, would not be prepared to extend the benefit of the doubt to any but those who would conform to their own peculiar idea, brand and stamp of what Christianity is.

This in itself creates in our minds the question—What does it mean to be a Christian? If we were asked that question, no doubt the replies that we would give would be varied and interesting. I wonder what you would say yourself. If it were put up to you to give in half a dozen words a concise, compelling and convincing definition of what is a Christian; what would you say? You might say a Christian is a person who believes in Jesus Christ, or a Christian is a person who follows Jesus Christ. I don't think many would beat St. Paul's denition. His definition, his explanation to the world of the lives and position that he and his fellow Christians took up and maintained was this—"the love of Christ constraineth us." A Christian is a person who is constrained by the love of Jesus Christ.

This was St. Paul's experience. On every hand in the world there were attractions and influences that might draw him this way or that way. But he found in Jesus Christ a magnetic power and an influence that stood out superior to all these and that lifted him above them. His Christianity was his response, his continued response to a Lord, a Leader and a friend whom he could not resist. He had tried to resist the Saviour but he had failed. He was violent in his determination against Jesus Christ, but his violence was broken down; love conquered force. St. Paul, who before was the persecutor, was captivated by Jesus Christ. The attractiveness of our Lord's person and the power of his appeal he could not withstand.

In every day life there are people who attract us and whom we admire intensely. There are men and women of whom we must say within ourselves, if not to others, there is manhood and there is womanhood as it ought to be. They make us enthusiastic where otherwise we would not be. They exercise a compelling and constraining force upon us. It is a pleasure to be in their company; it is a pleasure to work with them; what we do for them is never a labour to us. They are always an inspiration impelling us upwards and onwards in paths where we find true satisfaction. What we might each ask ourselves this morning is this question—Does the Risen Lord, does He take any such unique place in our lives? Is He the central figure whom we admire above all others, and to whom we find ourselves looking? Is he the person who exercises the strongest influence upon us? Do we find in him inspiration and encouragement? Is it just a real delight to do the things we know He would have us do? I may be wrong, but sometimes feel we either have never had very fully or that we have lost to a great extent the sense of the presence of the Living Lord, who is the central figure of the world, to whom we can look up and lift up our heads, and who has the power to lift us up to a new level of life.

What it means to be a Christian, I am afraid it has very often been distorted and twisted. Christianity too often has been presented as something that is unattractive, that is boring and depressing. It has too often been reduced to a code, of what must not be done. There are some who seem to have the idea that to be a Christian is to go about the world "like a pelican in the wilderness." They bear a woe-begotten expression on their faces. They disapprove of those who enjoy the things that were given to be enjoyed, and which were intended to brighten life. They cast a shadow where there should be sunshine. Some of the pictures, too, that we see of our Lord are both depressing and misleading. The picture of Jesus that moves before us in the Gospels is not of a lifeless, dejected creature that you would prefer not to see or meet. It is rather the picture of one who was full of life and enjoyed it. It is the picture of one who was distinguished and winning, and in whose person were blended perfectly the fine qualities of character. He is, moreover, portrayed as one whose sole aim was to fit others for fulness of life. Those who were constrained by his presence, those who were drawn to Him and who followed Him they did not find themselves called to a miserable existence. On the contrary they found very good reasons why they should not be dejected even in the most adverse and unwelcome circumstances. In following His lead they found opportunity for enterprise and adventure. The world could not always understand it; it



could not grasp why these Christians went on enduring hardship and unpleasantness where they might have escaped or avoided these. St. Paul's explanation was—"the love of Christ constraineth us." They were so much aware of what He had done and to what He had called them, that they were ready joyfully to do anything and everything in response. As our thoughts go back to their ready, effective service we must ask what has happened? Christianity to us has become somewhat laborious and heavy. If it has, is it not due to this, that the sense of the Living Christ has faded from our horizon. Is it that we are trying to be Christians without Him? The fact is that we cannot be. To be a Christian is to respond to the constraining love of Jesus Christ. This leads us to the consideration that follows.

When do we begin to be constrained by the love of God? When do we become Christians? There is a great deal of confusion in the minds of our people about this. It is often due to confused thought, and also to the difficulty of expression. You know how very easy it is to give a wrong impression, or how difficult it is, with out faltering words, to express to others what we want to express. You may have sometime heard a person speaking thus—"I lived without the Lord until I was twenty-five." Of course that is not true, no one can live for five minutes without the Lord. You cannot live for a moment without him. He is the author and giver of life. The person who says "I lived without the Lord until I was twenty-five," if he used, what would be to him an equivalent phrase, he would say, "I was not a Christian until I was twenty-five." Something happened then, and he became more conscious than ever before of the claims of Jesus Christ upon him. He dates his Christianity from that time. While not doubting that man's experience, I would say that his is an exceptional case. The trouble with many of our people is this, they regard and try to make the exceptional the normal. Once you attempt to displace the normal for the exceptional you cause confusion and bewilderment. To use an illustration, you are a member of the British Empire. When did you become a member? was it when you were nineteen or when you were forty-five. You became a member the day you were born, but of course you did not know it. Though you did not know it, you have been a member of the Commonwealth since you have enjoyed its privileges, its protection and the facilities of life which it has afforded. When did you become conscious of all this? It did not strike you where you were three or four or when you were seven or eight. When you came to years of discretion you began to be aware of your membership in the Empire, its worth and your obligations to it. To-day because of the war we are all very conscious of this. We have had a national awakening, there has been a national appeal and a national response. This has been said to show that in ordinary life we are members of our state long before we are aware of it, long before we can recognise the advantages that come thereby, and long before we can serve therein to any useful extent.

It is somewhat like that with our Christianity. If we are born in a Christian community and into Christian homes we are Christians from the very outset of life. "Baptism which represents our profession," and which

is administered normally in infancy, gives expression to this. As Christians, just as citizens, we grow up. The point that I wish to make and to emphasise is this, the child that is brought up in a Christian home, under and in touch with Christian influence, that child is being moulded from the very beginning by the constraining love of Jesus Christ. He is touched by Him through those who have most to do with him. As years go on he must become aware of all this. He learns that behind all this there is the love of Christ. In normal life we should be more conscious of his constraining love as the years increase, because we have the more opportunities for knowing it. If we are not more and more aware of this unceasing divine influence is it not because we have not taken time to consider it?

We need to keep fresh the sense of our Lord's restless, restless person. Aware of this, we could never be so dead and so lacking in spiritual vitality as we sometimes are; our Christian life would not have the meagre, pinched, wornout expression it so often bears. "The love of Christ constraineth us. If we felt this as a great reality here in Church this morning we could not be half-hearted about the prayers, the readings and the hymns. We would go home different people, we would even have a great desire in our hearts to come back again to the service this evening. Again, if it were a reality, the command of our Lord would be the delight of our lives. We would find ourselves doing gladly and whole-heartedly that which we otherwise would leave undone or perform with much reluctance.

Will you some time to-day and some time each day throughout the coming week just think of this simple but profound truth that above this world with its cares and worries and divisions, and even through all these there is centred upon each one of us the constraining love of Christ. Try to make all that you are and do and say your response to His compelling appeal, and see if it does not make a difference.

Let us see that our Christianity is never an unwelcome acceptance, but a glad, spontaneous, vital response to the love of Christ, who constraineth us, as He did His Apostles of old.

#### WEEKLY FREEWILL OFFERINGS.

The W.F.O. Hon. Secretary has submitted the following tabulated returns of amounts received for the first three months of this year, with the amounts for the corresponding Sundays in 1939. Allowing for the absence of the parish social, this shows a decrease of about £20 in Church collections and W.F.O. contributions, when compared with the same period in the previous year. If this falling off persists throughout 1940 the parochial finances will be in a very unsatisfactory condition, when the accounts are closed at the end of the year. It is hoped that our parishioners will see to it that this does not happen, by regularly bringing (or sending if prevented from attending) their envelopes regularly each Sunday.

	1939	1940
January	£5 12 1	£5 11 2
	7 13 4	5 1 6
	5 17 4	6 7 2
	8 6 3	4 0 7
	8 18 7	—
February	9 0 2	7 1 7
	8 4 1	6 9 9
	9 3 0	7 3 6
	7 17 2	12 16 6
March	9 13 11	9 2 7
	9 5 8	7 13 8
	9 8 3	8 5 2
Parish Social	10 7 8	—
	£109 7 6	£79 13 2