

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

FEBRUARY, 1941.

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 FEBRUARY.

February 2nd—4th Sunday after Epiphany.
February 9th—Septuagesima.
Monthly Service in Drumgor, at 3 p.m.
February 16th—Sexagesima.
February 23rd—Quinquagesima.
Monthly Service at Hacknahay, 3.30 p.m.
February 24th—St. Matthias.
February 26th—Ash Wednesday.
Penitential Service and Holy Communion
at 11.30 a.m.

LENT.

On ASH WEDNESDAY, Feb. 26th, which is the first day of Lent, there will be the usual Penitential Service in the Parish Church at 11.30 a.m., followed by Holy Communion.

Commencing on Wednesday, March 5th, and on the following Wednesdays until Easter, there will be an Intercession Service, with a short address, in the Parish Church at 8 p.m.

These special services during the Lenten season afford us an opportunity of spiritual stock-taking. Lent leads up to Good Friday and Easter Day, the days when we commemorate the Death of Christ—the great act of atonement made for us men and for our Salvation, and the triumph of Christ in His Resurrection—His victory over death and sin, and the opening of heaven to all believers.

The word Lent is the old English name for Spring, the season when the world makes a fresh start towards more light, more warmth, more fruitfulness, more beauty. In the very early days of Christianity a feeling arose among Christians, that, while Nature was waking to fresh life, Christians also ought to be making a fresh start, and a period was set apart during which the Church asked its members to make a special effort to become better Christians. After a time it was agreed to make this period forty days, because our Saviour began his earthly ministry with forty days' retirement in the wilderness. Immediately after His baptism, before He began to teach or to gather disciples, He withdrew for forty days and forty nights into the Wilderness of Judea, where he was

alone with God. Here He thought out plans for the Redemption of mankind, rejecting the easy ways, which the Devil tried to get Him to adopt, and choosing the slow, difficult way, which in the end brought Him to the Cross.

These two above mentioned facts, which were responsible for leading men to set apart the season of Lent as a time for special meditation and self-examination, suggest the meaning that this season should have for us Christians in these days. It sounds the call to us to respond more fully to the love of God in Christ, so that we may become better Christians. This is the crying need of our world to-day, it is a sad but, nevertheless, a true fact that Christ's cause is hindered and the growth of His Kingdom is delayed, more often than not, by the apathy, carelessness, and un-Christlike lives of those who profess to be His disciples. Because of our faithlessness, and the fact, that we too often are self-satisfied and ignorant of the vast difference between our practice and our profession of our loyalty to Jesus Christ, we are thereby limiting His power and thwarting His purpose. When our Lord was on earth His sternest rebukes were spoken to those, who considered themselves to be good and religious, there is a great danger that we, professing Christians, may fall under the same stern condemnation, unless we see to it, that we are continually measuring our lives and our ideals according to the standards of His perfect life. Too often Christians make standards for themselves, or worse still, they are content with the standards of the world. This sharpening of our conscience, of course should be our aim every day in life, but there is a danger that we might never do it at all, unless we recognise and use the weeks set apart by our Church, which lead up to the days commemorating the Cross, Passion and Resurrection of our Lord. The season of Lent then offers a glorious opportunity to us for an annual spiritual stock-taking. Is it only when we try to see ourselves in the light of Christ's life and teaching, that we see ourselves as we really are and thus allow Him to show us our failures and our shortcomings; if we draw nigh to Him in faith and prayer, we can never be content with things as they are, contact with Him in worship always cleanses, strengthens, and inspires us to a fuller and more loyal discipleship; it will make us better Christians.

The old time association of Lent with our Lord's temptation and His forty days in the wilderness, suggests to us our need of special times for self-examination, meditation on the meaning of the will of God for us, and rededication of ourselves to His service. If there was need for our Saviour, the Son of God to do this, how much more necessary it must be for us to make a special effort to get away from the world and the world's standards and to re-adjust our lives in the light of what He has shown us, as to what true life

really is. We know what barnacles are. On the sea-shore at very low tide you find the wooden supports of a pier covered with little shell-fish, which cling so tightly that you cannot pull them off. These are barnacles, and they cling just as tightly to the bottoms of ships. To sailors they are a terrible nuisance. When the ship is clean, it cuts quickly and smoothly through the water. But when barnacles begin to gather, the water catches in the little roughnesses, and holds the ship back, so that it cannot travel nearly as fast as it should. It looks all right, for the barnacles are out of sight under the water, but the Captain feels that something is holding his ship back, and he knows he must bring it into dry dock and find out where the barnacles are, and have them scraped off. Little sins, little bad habits, fasten on to our lives like barnacles, and keep us from being our best as Christians and the season of Lent is the dry dock, which enables us to come in, and make time to discover these barnacles and get them removed.

We get out of anything, at least as much, and sometimes more, than we put into it. This is a law of life, if we put nothing in we cannot hope to derive anything in return. This is why things like Public Worship, Holy Communion, Lent, etc., mean little or nothing to many; they have never used them as they were meant to be used and they do not realise what they are missing. Let us this year try to use the season of Lent in the way the Church meant it to be used and we will realise more fully our need of Christ's our vision of God's love and God's will will be clearer and we will realise more fully our need of Christ's cleansing and Christ's strength. The first step in coming to Christ is, that we should be dissatisfied with ourselves and feel our need of Him. Unless we feel our need, He cannot help us.

SEAGOE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR SOCIETY.

The annual meeting for the election of office-bearers for 1941 took place in Edenderry Orange Hall at 8 p.m. on January 6th. There was a large gathering of "Endeavourers" and friends. Mr. John Dermott presided.

The meeting opened with a hymn, prayer and a Bible reading; Miss Norah Montgomery and Miss Mabel Best sang a duet. The Hon. Secretary's report was very satisfactory, showing that a good year's work was done; and £1 17s 6d was sent to the Bible Churchman's Missionary Society.

Twelve woollen shirts, fourteen pairs of hand knitted socks, two woollen mufflers, half a dozen handkerchiefs and magazines were sent to help the work of "Floating Endeavour" among sailors. Parcels were also sent to the sick.

The Hon. Treasurer reported a credit balance at the end of the year.

The following elections took place:—President, Mr. R. M'Murray; vice-president, Mr. Ernest Gibson; treasurer, Miss Norah Montgomery; correspondence secretary, Miss Mabel Best; recording secretary, Mr. Harold Watters; Foreign Missionary work, Mr. David

Allen. Miss Nellie Montgomery, the outgoing president, thanked all the members for their help and co-operation during the year; she also congratulated the new president and office-bearers, and expressed the hope that 1941 would be Seagoe Christian Endeavour Society's "best year yet."—(N.M.)

We take this opportunity of commending this parochial organisation to our young people, who have been confirmed, and to older parishioners, who would like to join. The motto of Christian Endeavour is **FOR CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH**, an ideal which summarises admirably what should be the two-fold aim of the Christian, viz. (a) personal allegiance to Christ; (b) the testing and exercising of this allegiance in the Fellowship of Believers, which is Christ's Body, in other words, the Church. As well as holding up before its members a splendid motto, C.E. encourages regular Bible reading and study, which is not only a help, but an essential for a vigorous Christian life and also it helps its members to be useful Sunday School teachers. At the weekly meetings members are encouraged and given an opportunity to make their contribution.

Any parishioner wishing to become a member will be assured of a welcome and will find himself or herself in an atmosphere, in which the things of the spirit are given their proper place. The meetings are held weekly on Monday evenings in the Orange Hall, Bridge St., at 8 p.m. Those desiring to join Seagoe C.E. Society should attend the weekly meeting or get into touch with any of the office-bearers mentioned above, who will gladly give any further information required.—(J.W.A.)

MOTHERS' UNION.

The monthly meeting of the above took place in Seagoe School on Thursday, January 9th, at 3.30 p.m., when the Rev. W. F. Hayes gave a helpful address at short notice.

The next meeting will take place in Seagoe School at 3.30 p.m. on Thursday, February 13th, when it is hoped there will be a special speaker.

The members of the M.U. work party have, since last April sent in to the local War Hospital Supply Depot the following articles:—

160 pairs of hand-knitted socks; 3 knitted trawler blankets; 2 seamen's knitted jerseys; a few pairs of mittens.

The above list shows that the knitting needles are being used to good effect by our mothers on behalf of our gallant service men.

W.F.O. ENVELOPES.

New sets of the above for 1941 were distributed at the end of the year.

Every wage-earner should contribute regularly as much as he or she can afford to the upkeep of the Church and its services.

There are still some sets available for any who wish to become subscribers. Application should be made to Mr. J. H. Twinem, Hon. W.F.O. Secretary, High St., who will gladly supply them.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

CARNE.

On Sunday, January 5th, instead of the regular Sunday School a simple service took place, at which the Rector gave an address on the motto chosen for the year, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." There was a good attendance of pupils and their friends present.

We congratulate Miss Lyness on getting a Bible as a prize awarded for the choice of the most suitable motto text. At the end of the service, all present were given a tastefully printed card with the text for the year on it.

LEVAGHERY.

The annual prize distribution and social took place on Wednesday, January 15th, at 7.30 p.m. The Rev. W. F. Hayes presided. There was a good attendance of the children and their parents. After tea, the usual popular games were played and enjoyed by all. We congratulate the teachers on the success of the evening, and we are grateful to them for the loyal help and service on behalf of our Church children in this district.

DRUMGOR SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Statement of Income and Expenditure, 1940.

INCOME.

To balance on hands, Jan. 1940 ..	.. £1 7 10
" Church Service Collections ..	.. 1 19 7
" Sunday School Collections ..	.. 2 12 10
" Harvest Service Collections ..	.. 4 0 0
" Proceeds from Social ..	.. 2 12 6
" Receipts S. School Excursion ..	.. 1 8 6
" Harvest Collection for Missions ..	.. 1 3 6
" Subscriptions for Wreath ..	.. 0 14 9
" Fee for use of Hall ..	.. 0 5 0

Total .. £16 4 6

EXPENDITURE.

By Sunday School Prizes ..	.. £2 5 0
" Sunday School Excursion ..	.. 2 17 0
" School Rent ..	.. 2 10 0
" Catering Account ..	.. 0 17 9
" Heat and Light Account ..	.. 1 2 5
" Printing Account ..	.. 0 10 0
" Wreath Account ..	.. 1 0 0
" Caretaker ..	.. 1 0 0
" Harvest Offering for Missions ..	.. 1 3 6
" Postages ..	.. 0 5 9
" Balance on Hands, Jan., 1941 ..	.. 2 13 1

Total .. £16 4 6

A SPLENDID RECORD.

We congratulate Mr. Joseph Monroe, Levaghery, on completing his seventieth year as a collector for the parish Sustentation Fund. It is a record which very few are spared to attain, and we are grateful to him for his long and devoted service, and we wish him many years of still further service.

LIST OF REGISTERED VESTRYMEN.

A registered vestryman or vestrywoman is a person entitled to attend the annual General Easter Vestry meeting, at which the Select Vestry and other Church officers are elected annually.

To become a registered vestryman or vestrywoman, one must (a) have attained the age of 21 years, (b) be a subscriber to the W.F.O. Scheme or Sustentation Fund of the parish (c) sign a declaration form stating one's membership of the Church of Ireland, (d) be a resident parishioner or an accustomed member of the parish.

This list is revised annually in the month of February. Parishioners who have not registered are invited to do so and should sign the form provided before the end of February. Any Select Vestryman will, if asked, provide the necessary form.

SIDESMEN.

FEBRUARY:

Morning Prayer—The Churchwardens, Messrs. H. M. Gibson, R. Scott, Wm. Hutchinson, R. M'Murray.

Evening Prayer—Messrs. J. Walker, N. Campbell, T. Stanfield, S. D. Walker, G. Nixon, J. M'Loughlin.

MARCH:

Morning Prayer—The Churchwardens, Messrs. R. M'Clements, G. Price, W. White, E. Mitchell.

Evening Prayer—Messrs. G. Wilson, A. Kirke, Thos. Gracey, H. Ellis, Wm. Neill.

HEAVY SNOWFALL.

A heavy fall of snow, which had formed very deep drifts, especially on the side roads, was responsible for very poor attendances at the Services on Sunday, January 19th.

During the winter the attendance was well maintained, in spite of the black-out in the evenings and some very cold, wet weather. Now with the approach of Spring and longer hours of daylight, we look forward to a further increase in the attendance at both Morning and Evening Prayer.

OBITUARY.

This month we regret to have to chronicle the passing from our midst of three parishioners and three persons, who at one time had a connection with this parish.

James Reid had been in failing health for some time; until a few years ago he was a regular worshipper and a Communicant. James Ellis was a kindly neighbour; he passed away very suddenly after an operation. Agnes Hickland was in poor health for some years. She belonged to an old Carne family. To the bereaved we offer our sincere sympathy in their sorrow, and we have been remembering them in our prayers.

We also tender our sincere sympathy to Mrs. E. Mitchell on the death of her mother, Mrs. M'Iroy, who was known to many in Seagoe.

IDENTIFIED—A CHRISTIAN!

"We are made a Theatre unto the world, and to angels, and to men" (I. Cor. 4, 9, Marg. Reading).
We are watched, as the Master was watched, while on earth (St. Mark 3. 2),

And "challenged" each day that we live;
"Are you Friend?" "Are you Foe?" "Approach" and reveal!

An answer direct you must give.

Can the world, that is watching, identify you,
As Christ's first Apostles were seen?
Can the world, by your converse, take knowledge of you (Acts 4. 13).

That you with our Saviour have been?

You say that you hope that you are not a Foe,
But can the Lord call you His friend?
Can you be identified, where'er you go,
As a soldier, Christ's cause to defend?

Do you bear in your life the marks of the Lord?
(Gal. 6. 17)

Marks never allowed to grow dim,
"Identity Marks," which all may obtain
By prayer and Communion with Him.

We are watched by our enemies, watched by our friends,

To see if we're faithful and true;
We are watched by the Saints, and the Angels on high (Heb. 12. 1),
And a loving God watches us too.

Let us act well our part on the stage of this life,
Persevere till the green curtain falls;

"Play the men for our people and cities of God"
(II. Sam. 10. 12),

And win the "Well done" when God calls (St. Matt. 25. 21).

CLAUDE D. KINGDON.

(The above poem appeared recently in the "Church Army Gazette." We print it as it expresses an aspect of Bible teaching, which Christians often forget.)

BURIALS.

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

Dec. 30th—James Reid, 159 Bridge St., Portadown, aged 72 years.

Jan. 3rd—Ruth Lyness, Castleblayney St., Newtown-hamilton, aged 88 years.

Jan. 7th—James Ellis, 4, Carrickblacker Avenue, Portadown, aged 57 years.

Jan. 7th—Thomas Hall, 25 Cavour Street, Belfast, aged 69 years.

Jan. 21st—Agnes Hickland, 164 West Street, Portadown, aged 70 years.

Jan. 21st—Brenda E. J. Reid, 36 Coombehill Park, Belfast, aged 14 months.

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 Rev. W. J. Gransden, the Rector, Lurgan. Due notice (48 hours) must be given to the Rector of intended weddings. **FEEES**—By License—Labourers 5/-. Tradersmen 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. **FEEES 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 CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR SOCIETY—Mondays, Orange Hall, at 8 p.m.

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