

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

FEBRUARY, 1906.

CLERGY:

RECTOR—REV. JAMES E. ARCHER, B.D.,
The Rectory, Seagoe.

CURATE—REV. JOHN TAYLOR, B.A.,
Seagoe Villa.

N.B.—The Clergy will feel greatly obliged if the Parishioners will notify to them any cases of illness at the earliest possible moment.

Churchwardens:

MR. JOHN MONTGOMERY, Levaghery.

MR. JOSEPH M'MURRAY, Ballinarry

Select Vestry:

ALBIN, MR. JAMES	MONRO, MR. JOSEPH
ATKINSON, MR. W. R.	MARTIN, MR. THOMAS
CALVERT, MR. GEORGE	MONTGOMERY, MR. T. J.
COSTELLO, MR. ATKINSON	M'DOWELL, MR. WM. J.
GRACEY, MR. ROBERT	ROCK, MR. DAVID
IRWIN, MR. WILSON	STEVENSON, MR. JOSEPH
ATKINSON, MR. W. R.,	Secretary and Treasurer.

Church Army Mission.



APTAIN GASKELL, with his Church Army Van, is coming to the Parish to hold a Mission during Lent. The Mission will commence on March 1st, and the Captain will conduct services in different centres

through the Parish. We hope to have a week's Mission at least, in each of the following Districts—Carne, Drumgor, Lylo, Hacknahay, and Edenderry. We believe that Captain Gaskell, whose work in the North of Ireland has been much blessed, will receive a hearty welcome wherever he goes through the Parish, and we ask the earnest prayers of our people that the Divine Blessing may rest in rich abundance on his work. There is much sin and indifference in our midst, sleeping souls need to be aroused, and sinful lives cleansed by God's grace. We trust that the coming Mission may be the means of leading many wandering ones back to the Father's Home.

In connection with the Mission it may not be out of place to make reference to the splendid work accomplished by the Church Army. Some idea of the immense extent of its efforts may be gathered from the fact that last year the amount expended in connection with its evangelistic work reached the grand total of £170,000. In every Diocese in England and Ireland it has representatives who carry on a constant and difficult work amongst all classes of the community. Labour Homes have also been established in the poorer parts of all our large cities, and Special Missions are conducted by its Agents in Prisons, Workhouses and Hospitals. One most important factor in its method of working is that it acts in full and complete harmony with the Church and under the direct control of the Parochial Clergy. While many modern evangelistic movements tend to alienate people from the unity of the Church, the Church Army takes its stand upon the old foundation truths of the Church's life.

OFFERTORIES FOR JANUARY.

	Morning			Evening		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Jan. 7th—1st Sun. af Epiphany	1	1	3	0	6	3
„ 14th—2nd „	0	5	8			
„ 21st—3rd „	0	19	3	0	9	0
„ „ 4th—4th „	1	0	1	0	11	9
„ 28th—4th „	1	2	1	0	8	1
Total,	£4	11	9	£1	15	1

Baptisms.

“As many of you as have been baptised into Christ, have put on Christ.”

January 6th—

Anne, daughter of Richard and Martha Porter, Kernan.

Cherry, „
Margaret, daughter of James and Anne Erskine, Belfast.

Ethel Elizabeth, daughter of George and Mary Jane Neill, Portadown.

Eliza, daughter of Thomas and Jane Gates, Edenderry.

Norah Florence, daughter of Wm. John and Emma Forsythe, Seagoe.

Samuel Jas., son of Edmund and Sarah Grimason, Edenderry.

Dynes, son of James and Sarah Turkington, Kernan
Herbert Victor, son of Samuel and Mary Lavery, Belfast.

David, son of Alexander and Annie Thornton, Edenderry.

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Marriages.

"Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

- Jan. 1st—William John Wells, Bleary, to Elizabeth Wells, Edenderry.
Jan. 4th—Stewart John Bell, Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, to Annie Sherman, Edenderry.

Burials.

"I know that my Redeemer liveth."

- Jan. 7th—Alice Moffett, Drumnagoan.
" 14th—Elizabeth Robinson, Lurgan, aged 70.
" 24th—Cherry Porter, Kernan, aged three months
" 27th—Mary Jane Hall, Lurgan, aged 72.

Coming Events.

- Feb. 5th—Meeting in Seagoe for enrolling new members on General Vestry, 7.30 p.m.
" 6th—Social meeting of M.P.U. in Edenderry at 7.30.
" 14th—Social meeting Drumgor, 7.30 p.m.
" 20th—Soiree at Carne, 7.30 p.m.
" 21st—Public Lecture on "A Holiday in Norway" by Rev. J. E. Archer, B.D. Lime-light views. Tickets 6d.
" 25th—Annual Missionary Sermons in the Parish Church—Preacher Rev. T. B. Brown, Deputation Sec. C.M.S.
" 27th—Shrove Tuesday. Tea meeting at Levaghery 7.30 p.m.

Our Magazine.

Only a very few copies of our Magazine for January are now left. It had a very large sale and we have to thank the many kind friends through the Parish who gave us such help in distributing it. Mr. William John Currie, our genial friend at Edenderry Hall, made a record by disposing of 96 copies in Edenderry. If any one wants to secure a spare copy of the January number he had better do so at once, as the edition is almost sold out. Some copies are still to be had at Mrs. Malcomson's, Bridge Street.

Edenderry Sunday Schools.

The Distribution of Prizes in connection with these Schools took place on Tuesday, January 9th, in the Parochial Hall. There was a very large gathering of the young people in anticipation of a visit from "Old Father Christmas." On the platform stood a magnificent Christmas Tree decked out with toys of all kinds, whilst in front stood a table covered with a collection of Bibles, Prayer Books and Story Books for the children who have attended most regularly throughout the year. After an opening hymn and prayer, the Rector (Rev. J. E. Archer) addressed a few words to those present and then called upon Miss Armstrong to distribute the Prizes to the successful pupils. When this part of the programme was completed, excitement rose to fever heat when it was known that "Father Christmas" was about to enter the room. Clad in ruddy garb and with long flowing beard the old man came in among the children, who received him with roars of delight. After making acquaintance with all his young friends, the old man hobbled back to the Christmas Tree, and there assisted by some of the teachers gave away the toys from the Tree. Every child got something, and at the close of the evening all separated feeling that they had spent a most enjoyable evening. We were glad to have the children and teachers present from Levaghery Sunday School. We congratulate Mr. Jos. Monroe, the superintendent, and Mr. J. Montgomery on the efficiency of the Sunday School under their management.

Our best thanks are due to all who helped, but especially to Miss Armstrong and Mrs. Ruck, and our worthy Superintendent, Mr. J. Stevenson, who worked indefatigably to make the meeting a success.

Thanks.

The Rector desires to return his heartiest thanks to the parishioners who have so kindly drawn gravel for the Rectory walks. It has made a great and much-needed improvement.

Drumgor.

One of the pleasantest of our Sunday School prize gatherings took place at Drumgor on Friday evening, January 19th. We have seldom seen so many young people assembled as on this occasion, and they seemed to enjoy the pleasure provided for them to the utmost. Through the kindness of the teachers tea and cake were supplied to the children, and it goes without saying they did ample justice to the good things provided. The Rector presided and in a few introductory remarks expressed his pleasure at presiding over such a splendid gathering. A most interesting and effective programme followed, some of the comic pieces causing much amusement. An attractive feature was the singing of some action songs by the children, who had been carefully trained by Miss Parkes. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. M'Mullen, who also most hospitably entertained the teachers and other friends to tea in her own house both before and after the meeting. The Rev. J. Taylor congratulated all present on the large number of beautiful prizes won by the children, and exhorted them to still further efforts in the year just begun. Our efficient superintendent, Mr. Alfred Gilpin, was present during the evening and contributed much to its success.

Carne.

The distribution of Sunday School prizes at Carne on Friday evening, January 12th, was very successful, and proved how vigorously the Church is progressing in this important district of the Parish. The attendance at Carne School is increasing every Sunday, and we heartily congratulate our new superintendent, Mr. David Murray, on his zeal in furthering this noble Christian work. The children and teachers assembled in great numbers for the distribution of prizes. Tea and cake in unlimited abundance were provided by the generosity of the teachers and helpers, and when full justice had been done to the good things set before them the chair was taken by the Rector. In a few words of congratulation and advice he urged all present to press forward in the good work so as to make the Sunday School a real spiritual help to the children. A most interesting programme of songs and recitations followed. The Rev. J. Taylor then spoke some words of encouragement, and said how much he rejoiced in the success of the school. The prizes were then distributed to the successful children. After the singing of the Doxology all separated after a most enjoyable evening.

Bible Classes.

New programmes have been issued in connection with the Bible Classes. "The Christian Year" is the course for 1906, and we believe it will prove very helpful.

Christmas Tree at Seagoe.

"Old Father Christmas" paid a visit to Seagoe School on Wednesday evening, January 17th, on the occasion of the Sunday School prizes being given to the children. He was received with great joy by both young and old, and with a kind word he gave out the toys that hung upon the splendid Christmas Tree. A large number of valuable books were given as prizes, and we were glad to see that many of the children got Bibles, Prayer Books, and Church Hymnals for their prizes. The Bibles were handed to the fortunate prize-winners by our good friend Mrs. Ruck, and the story-books were given out by Miss Taylor (sister of the Rev. J. Taylor) whom we were very glad to see present on the occasion. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was given to all who had so kindly assisted at the entertainment. We have specially to thank Miss I. Atkinson for her kind gift of toys for the Tree.

Edenderry Women's Class.

Miss Armstrong's class, which meets in the Reading Room, Bridge Street, every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, is we are glad to say rapidly increasing in numbers and will prove we believe a great blessing in the district. There is an attendance of over 40 every Sunday morning. We hope the members will try to get others to attend, so as to still further increase the membership.

Friends Abroad.

If you want your friends in England, Scotland, Canada, the United States, Australia, Africa, or elsewhere to keep in touch with the old Church at home send them a copy of the Seagoe Parish Magazine. It is the nicest present you can give them.

Items.

We congratulate Mr. Alfred Murray, the son of our respected churchwarden Mr. Joseph Murray, on having passed with credit the recent Term Exam. in Dublin University.

The following four children were awarded special prizes for very diligent attendance at Seagoe National School during last year—David Frazer, Nellie Watson, Miriam Holmes, Herbert Watson.

We beg to thank Mr. Hamilton Robb for his generous present of a stove for the Men's Reading Room in Bridge Street, and also for a most useful gift of illustrated papers.

We are glad to see that Mr. W. Flannigan, deputy superintendent at Edenderry Sunday School, is again strong and well after his recent illness.

Men's Reading Room.

During the past few weeks an innovation has been made by holding "Talks" among the members on each Monday evening at 8. On January 22 the subject was "The new Labour Party," and a useful discussion took place. On Monday, 29th inst., "Free Trade and Fiscal Reform" was ably treated. Much additional interest was lent to this latter gathering by the presence of Mr. Thomas Atkinson, B.L., son of our good friend Mr. W. R. Atkinson, of Eden Villa. Mr. T. Atkinson has just returned from defending the cause of the Union at the recent elections in the South of England. On next Monday the subject under discussion will be "Should we have Conscription?"

Missionary Class.

This class meets in Edenderry Parochial Hall every Friday evening. It was started by Miss Armstrong last summer and has been carried on by her with great zeal and earnestness ever since. The number of girls attending is now very large and we feel sure that under God's blessing a real spirit of Missionary interest is being kindled. We heartily thank Miss Armstrong for the trouble she has taken in bringing the class to its present state of success.

To the Young Men of the Parish.

We wish to call the attention of the young men of the Parish to the great importance of having their names enrolled on the register of the General Vestry. The only qualification necessary is a minimum payment of half-a-crown to the Sustentation Fund, and this payment if made by a young man over the age of 21 years entitles him to a vote in the election of the Select Vestry. On Monday, February 5th, there will be a meeting in Seagoe School at 7-30 for the purpose of enrolling new members on the General Vestry. We hope to see a large number of new members joining the General Vestry.

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Conference.

On Friday evening, February 2nd, a most important conference of the Teachers in all the Parish Sunday Schools was held in Seagoe School at 7.30 p.m. The Rector entertained those present to tea, after which a very useful discussion took place as to how the Sunday Schools, which are attended by over 1,000 children, can be made more efficient. A new Programme is being drawn up, and the new system of Reward Tickets is being adopted in most of the schools with the best possible results. The whole work of the schools was carefully discussed, and we believe the result will add greatly to the efficiency of our Sunday Schools throughout the Parish.

Notes on Old Seagoe.

The present bridge across the Bann replaced a long narrow wooden bridge which was erected on the site of another bridge washed away by a great flood in the year 1786.

A curious old custom prevailed some centuries ago in Seagoe Parish. Whenever a funeral took place in the graveyard those who carried the coffin walked round the church and allowed it to touch each corner of the building before the burial took place. The old Bell of Seagoe, now in Dublin Museum, was rung at funerals by a man who walked in front of the coffin.

In the Vestry Records of Seagoe for the year 1701 (April) a charge is recorded of one pound, sterling, for Badges for the Poor. It was the custom apparently in those days for the Select Vestry of Seagoe to provide a special Badge for those who depended on the charity of the Church for their support. We wonder are any of these Badges still in existence. They would be of antiquarian interest.

Extracts from Old Seagoe Records, for the year 1672—"John the son of Thomas Medcalfe baptized in or about the Feast of All Saints in the year of our Lord 1672." This entry brings us back to the time when calendars were scarce and the periods of time were marked only by a reference to the Church Seasons and Special Days. All Hallows Eve (Oct. 31) is still a favourite note of time among our country folk.

Next month we hope to insert some notes on the names of the Townlands in the Parish.