

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JULY, 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. ATKINSON COSTELLO, Carne.

MR. T. E. MAGINNIS, Ballydonaghy.

Select Vestry:

ALBIN, MR. JAMES	MONTGOMERY, MR. J.
ATKINSON, MR. W. R.	MONTGOMERY, MR. T. J.
COSTELLO, MR. ANDREW	MURRAY, MR. J.
GRACEY, MR. ROBERT	M'DOWELL, MR. WM. J.
LAVERY, MR. J.	ROCK, MR. DAVID
MONRO, MR. JOSEPH	STEVENSON, MR. J. H.
ATKINSON, MR. W. R.,	Secretary and Treasurer.

Bazaar and Sale of Work.



FURTHER arrangements have been made for this important event which is to come off on Thursday, November 15th. The Parish has been mapped out into districts, and we would urge all who are to take part to see that as soon as possible the work is organised on a proper footing. Collecting cards have also been issued. During the holiday season bring your card with you wherever you go, and you will be sure to get subscriptions.

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Athletic Sports.

We anticipate a very successful gathering for our Seagoe Athletic Sports which will be held on Thursday, July 5th, beginning at 6 p.m. The prettily situated grounds known as Churchview Grounds have been kindly lent by Mr. Watson Walker. A regular course will be marked out, and special enclosures arranged for the spectators. All kinds of races are on the programme, including a schoolboys' race, sack race, wheelbarrow race, tug-of-war, uniform race, etc., and the Portadown Brass Band will play during the evening. The entries for the races close on Monday, July 2nd. Charge for admission to grounds 3d and 6d. Valuable prizes will be given to the successful racers.

OFFERTORIES FOR JUNE.

	Morning	Evening
June 3rd—Whitsunday	£0 2 6	
" 10th—Trinity Sunday	3 8 7	£0 14 1
" 17th—1st Sun. after Trinity	1 2 2	0 12 9
" 24th—2nd Sun. after Trinity	0 3 3	
	1 1 3	0 13 2
	1 1 6	1 2 6
	£7 2 6	£3 2 6

Baptisms.

"One Lord, one faith, one baptism."

June 2nd—Amy, daughter of Thomas and Ann Jane Neill, Ballymacrandle.
 " —William, son of Robert and Agnes M'Kinstry, Edenderry.
 " —Mabel, daughter of Thomas and Frances Jane Dickson, Tamniflaglasson.
 " —Thomas John, son of Thomas Henry and Annie Russell, Drumgor.
 " 24th—Mary Jane, daughter of James and Annie Best, Drumnacanvey.

Burials.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord,"

June 17th—Christina Fletcher, Edenderry, aged 29.
 " 19th—Elizabeth Monro, Levaghery, aged 82.

Much regret has been expressed at the very sudden death of Mrs. Monro, of Levaghery, on Saturday, June 16th. After a few hours illness, she was called to her Eternal rest. We express our deep sympathy with her husband and family in their hour of trouble, and we pray that the God of all comfort may be with them in this time of need.

We also record with sincere regret the death, after a very short illness, of Mr. Johnson, late stationmaster at Portadown, who was so well-known to many among us. Mr. Johnson, by his genial good humour and friendliness, was very popular with everyone, and was greatly respected for his sterling qualities of heart and mind. We offer to his bereaved relatives our sincere sympathy.

Major Stewart Blacker.

We hear that Major and Mrs. Blacker intend to take up their residence at Carrickblacker towards the end of July. Major Blacker has just retired from the army after a long and distinguished military career in various parts of the world. He was severely wounded in the Afridi (North India) campaign, and saw much service during the late Boer War. We extend a very hearty welcome to Major and Mrs. Blacker on coming to reside amongst us, and we wish them much happiness and blessing in their new home. Canon Blacker's many friends will be rejoiced to hear that he is in excellent health, and hopes to pay a visit to this neighbourhood next autumn.

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PORTADOWN.**

The Excursion to Newcastle.

The annual Sunday School excursion took place under the most favourable circumstances on Thursday, June 7th. People say that Seagoe always gets a fine day, and certainly this tradition was well upheld this year. Some slight clouds covered the sky in the early morning, and a slight shower fell, but as the hour of assembly approached the sun shone out brilliantly from a beautiful summer sky. Crowds of children, looking so nice in their bright new dresses, filled all the roads leading to the Church, and after a short service and a few words of good advice from the Rector, the various scholars formed into line, headed by the Carrickblacker band. The excursionists carried a large number of splendid banners, which added greatly to the appearance of the procession as it wended its way to the station. Two special trains were in waiting, and in a very short time were despatched on their way to Newcastle. A goodly number of children drove over in brakes from Knocknamuckley and joined in pleasant intercourse with the Seagoe children. As we moved out from the station every roof and gateway seemed crowded with people who waved hats and flags and handkerchiefs, and cheered lustily at the crowded trains. Passing through Scarva and Banbridge, we soon arrived at Newcastle and, with appetites sharpened by the bracing air we made our way to the field where Mr. Davison and his helpers had the big kettle boiling and hampers full of appetising buns all ready. In a very short time, and without any delay or confusion, all were supplied with tea and cake. A move was then made for the shore, and before you could say "Jack Robinson" boots and stockings were off and hundreds of little feet were paddling in the beautiful blue waves. Others walked along the shore and through the wooded slopes of Donard Lodge enjoying the magnificent views of sea and mountain, visible on every side. At half-past five o'clock tea-time came, and the large field was once again filled. After the heat and excitement of the day a cup of good tea was very welcome, and all seemed greatly to enjoy the evening

meal. Two Italian ice-cream boys did a roaring trade all day long, and a small boy with a basket of cockles was also patronised. At 7 o'clock the special trains were timed to leave for home, and at that hour all had gathered at the station. The run to Portadown was speedily made, and on our arrival there was a large crowd awaiting us. With the band in front and banners flying the excursionists made their way to the Church where cheers were given for the King and also for the clergy and all who had helped to make the excursion so successful. The excursion was one of the largest ever held, no less than 957 tickets being sold. The Rector (Rev. J. E. Archer) and the Rev. John Taylor accompanied the excursion.

Service for Orangemen.

A special service for Orangemen will be held in the Parish Church on Sunday afternoon, July 8th, at 4-30 p.m.

The Parochial Mission.

We hope all our people are keeping in mind the approaching Parochial Mission, which is to be held at the end of September. A mission to be a great spiritual success must be carefully prepared for, and we are looking forward to the forthcoming mission as a time when, with God's help, the people will be deeply stirred. We will shortly have a series of Tracts distributed through the Parish which will explain more fully the objects of the Mission and the best method of preparation. The Rev. W. Bryan-Brown, who is to conduct the Mission, is the author of some very interesting and useful tracts.

Examination.

The Inspector of the Board of Religious Education, the Rev. W. S. Darley, examined the children attending Seagoe National School, on Thursday, May 31st. The Church children were carefully examined in the Holy Scriptures and in the Formularies of the Church, and those not belonging to the Church of Ireland were examined in Holy Scripture. The answering amongst the junior children was very good; the senior children did not do so well; but after a very searching examination two certificates were awarded, the names of the successful pupils being—John Stothers and Thomas Ruddell.

The Rector has awarded Book Prizes to these boys, and also to William Watson for good answering in Scripture. We desire to point out to parents in the Parish the advantage of sending their children to our Parochial School, where they not merely receive a sound secular education but are also most carefully instructed in the truths of the Christian Faith, which are able to make them wise unto salvation. Every week the Parochial Clergy give religious instruction in the School, and every morning similar instruction is given by the Teachers.

We are glad to see that the number of children attending the school has of late largely increased, and we look forward to the time when the attendance at the school will be proportionate to the number of Church children in the Parish.

The Silver Medals awarded by the Rector to the best boy and girl in the school, were won by James Johnston and Miriam Holmes. The medals were presented to the successful children by the Rector on Friday afternoon, at the breaking up for the summer holidays. The winners of the medals and book prizes were loudly cheered on coming forward to receive them. Hearty cheers were given for the clergy and teachers, and as the children passed out each one was presented with a gift of sweets.

Reading Room.

We acknowledge with thanks the following subscriptions received towards our Men's Reading Room in Bridge Street—Mr. H. Stoops, 5/-; Mr. William Sherman, 5/-; Mr. R. Sherman, 2/-

Items.

The school at Levaghery has been greatly improved by the removal of the unsightly railing and porch, and the erection of a very neat and substantial boundary wall.

* * *

The Seagoe C.L.B. made a good turn-out for the Church Parade on Sunday evening, June 24th. They were under the command of Lieutenants Twinem and Reid.

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The Seagoe Day School breaks up for the summer holidays on Friday, 29th inst.

* * *

A new Infant Sunday School has been formed in the Wooden Hall, Edenderry, under the management of Miss Connor for the boys, and Mrs. Martin and the Misses Montgomery for the girls. Since going to the hall we are glad to say our numbers have still further increased.

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New Church Attendance Cards will be issued on Sunday, July 1st.

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Before the winter arrives we hope to have the gas introduced into Seagoe Church and School. This will be a great improvement.

* * *

Mr. Robert Brennan, of Joseph Street, met with a serious accident some weeks ago, from which we are glad to say he has now almost recovered. In the effort to rescue a child, who was in danger of being knocked down by a cyclist, Mr. Brennan was himself knocked down by a car and received very severe injuries.

* * *

Master John Stothers, son of the principal of Seagoe School, has been awarded an assisted scholarship under the Incorporated Society at a recent examination. This is very creditable, as the scholarship was won on first trial.

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The grounds around the Parochial Hall have been put into good order, and the railings painted by the efficient caretaker, W. J. Curry.

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The Prizes for the Athletic Sports will be on view in the town shops in a few days.

The ship in which Mr and Mrs Alfred Gilpin made their honeymoon trip to America made a record passage.

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The C.L.B. camp this year will be at Ballycastle, Co. Antrim. A party of the Seagoe Lads will be there, and we are sure they will have a splendid holiday. Camp is pitched on July 7th.

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Mr. Robert M'Kinstry, who has been very ill, is now, we are glad to say, getting better. His many friends will wish for him a speedy recovery.

Notes on Old Seagoe.

In sinking a well recently on the site of Mr. Geo. Calvert's new house a curiously worked stone was found at a depth of thirty feet, and a piece of oak in perfect preservation at a depth of eighty feet.

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The first Bank established in Portadown was a branch of the Ulster Bank, and it occupied part of the premises now in the possession of Lutton's Factory, Edenderry.

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The apple orchards in the neighbourhood of Portadown were introduced by the English settlers who came over at the time of the Plantation of Ulster.

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Until about 100 years ago there was a large block of stone outside the gate of Seagoe Graveyard called in the Vestry Records "The Horse Block" from which the people used to mount their horses after attending service at the old Church. It would be interesting to find it.

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Knockmena, the name of a townland in the Parish, means "The Middle Hill."

The Boley crossing on the railway to Lurgan is derived from the Irish word "Buaile" which means a dairy or else a building where cows are kept.

Balteagh is so-called from three Irish words meaning "the town of the two ravens." There is a curious tradition, where the name occurs in the Co. Down that "two ravens flew away with a plumb line from a place where the people were about to erect a Church to another site some distance away, where a Church was afterwards erected."

Our Sunday Schools.

We are glad to hear good accounts of all our Sunday Schools. The system of Reward Tickets introduced at the beginning of the year has proved most successful. The Church attendance cards which are "punched" every Sunday afternoon have also been of great use, and we can see their result every Sunday in the large number of children now attending the services in the Church.

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