

Séamas Ó Ceallacháin



Image courtesy of Rita O'Brien

Rugadh Séamas Ó Ceallacháin (1883–1921) ar an 22 Aibreán 1883, i mBaile Níos, Co. Chorcaí, do Sheán Ó Ceallacháin, feirmeoir, agus Máire (née Hennessy). D'fhreastail sé ar sheimineár Mhaigh Nuad, agus thosaigh sé ag forbairt spéise sa teanga Gaeilge agus é ann. Oirníodh é i mí an Mheithimh 1908.

Chaith sé tamall ag obair i bparóiste Uíbh Laoghaire timpeall na bliana 1911 agus ag teagasc i gColáiste na Mumhan. Bhí sé ina dhéan cónaitheach ar an gColáiste agus ina bhall den choiste. I 1913 bhí sé ar an gcéad sagart cúnta lánaimseartha a ceapadh i mBéal Átha an Ghaorthaidh. Aistríodh é go paróiste na hArdeaglaise, Cathair Chorcaí, i 1917, agus mhúin sé ranganna i gcoláiste geimhridh Coláiste na Mumhan. I mí Dheireadh Fómhair 1920 ceapadh é ina shagart cúnta i gCloichíní, gar don Chathair.

Bhí an tAthair Ó Ceallacháin cairdiúil le Liam de Róiste, Rúnaí Choláiste na Mumhan, agus é i mBéal Átha an Ghaorthaidh agus bhí cónaí air ina teach i gcathair Chorcaí ó Shamhain 1920 agus é ag lorg tí oiriúnach i gCloichíní.

Ag thart ar a ceathair a chlog ar maidin an 15 Bealtaine 2021, bhris fórsaí an Choróin isteach sa teach ag lorg Liam de Róiste agus lámhaigh siad an tAthair Ó Ceallacháin ó achar gearr. Tugadh go dtí an tOspidéal Thuaidh é, agus é fós ina aithne, agus d'aithin sé a ionsaitheoir mar Dúchrónach a d'aithin sé mar dhuine a bhíodh ar patról go rialta i Sráid Sheandún.

Fuair sé bás an tráthnóna sin. Bhí sé 37 bliain d'aois.

Séamus O'Callaghan (1883–1921) was born on 22 April 1883, in Newceston, Co. Cork, to John Callaghan, a farmer, and Mary (née Hennessy). He attended Maynooth seminary, developing an interest in the Irish language while there. He was ordained in June 1908.

He spent some time working in the parish of Uíbh Laoghair around 1911 and taught in Coláiste na Mumhan. He became resident dean of the Coláiste and a member of the committee. In 1913 he was the first full-time assistant priest appointed in Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh. He was transferred to the Cathedral parish, Cork city, in 1917, and taught classes in a winter college attached to Coláiste na Mumhan. In October 1920 he was appointed assistant priest in Clogheen, just to the north of Cork City.

Fr O'Callaghan had become friendly with Liam de Róiste, Secretary of Coláiste na Mumhan, while in Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh and lived in his house in Sunday's Well, Cork city from November 1920 while he was looking for a suitable home in Clogheen. At about four o'clock on the morning of 15 May 1921, Crown forces broke into the house looking for Liam de Róiste and shot Fr O'Callaghan at point-blank range. He was rushed to the North Infirmary, still conscious, and identified his assailant as a Black and Tan whom he recognised as regularly on patrol in Shandon Street. He died that evening. He was 37 years of age.

Foinse/Source: Ainm.ie [ar line/online]: <https://www.ainm.ie/Bio.aspx?ID=696>