

THE LINK

THE BENEFICE OF OFFWELL, FARWAY & WIDWORTHY

JUNE & JULY 2022

70 years. The traditional and Bible derived estimation of the life expectancy of a man or woman. A whole life's experiences packed into 70 brief years.

This set me thinking what it must be like to do the same job, let alone be a reigning monarch constantly in the public eye, for 70 years? A lifetime of having to behave with perfect decorum, never to express a private opinion, despite the provocations, despite times of personal heartbreak, despite having to endure without public complaint the unfair criticisms of odious politicians and media personalities. Never to be able to answer back, to correct or admonish falsehoods, to put one's own side of the story, to have to endorse decisions and legislation with which one might personally disagree or even find reprehensible, because it's your duty as head of state. And never to snap, despite the tragedies and controversies involving one's nearest and dearest. To be pushed to the limits of endurance but still to fulfil one's oath of service to the nation.

How many of us could do that for a year, let alone 70?

What qualities would you need to be able to do it? An utter and overwhelming sense of conviction and duty? For sure. Unfathomable reserves of patience, integrity and self-possession perhaps? Without doubt.

But more than that surely? A role model to imitate? Yes indeed, but that can only take you so far. More is required, and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II whose Diamond Jubilee, the first in the history of our island nation, we celebrate this summer, surely not only possesses all those necessary qualities but also by her life and convictions reveals the final and most important missing ingredient – faith.

Her Majesty's deep Christian faith is well known but not often discussed, but every step of her life and reign has been guided by her faith in and is modelled on the conduct of her Redeemer, Jesus Christ. When one understands Jesus' teachings, His conduct and life, such as turning the other cheek, His self-sacrificial leadership, His total commitment to His duty of Service to the point of death, one begins to understand why Queen Elizabeth II has conducted her reign in the way she has, and why no fair commentator can ever say she has not given everything over a lifetime to the service of her nation. Perhaps many will only realise and miss her when she's gone, but right now let us thank God for her exceptional qualities of humility, forbearance and duty to her country.

Jonathan Paveley

JUNE

	St. Mary's ~ OFFWELL	St. Michael & All Angels ~ FARWAY	St. Cuthbert's ~ WIDWORTHY
June 5th Pentecost	9:30am Holy Communion		9:30am Songs of Praise for the Jubilee
June 12th			9:30am Family Service
June 19th	10:15am Family Service	11:15am Holy Communion	9:30am Holy Communion
June 26th	5:00pm BCP Evensong		9:30am Family Service

Note: BCP is The Book of Common Prayer

BIBLE READINGS

June 5th Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104: 24-34,35 <i>b</i>	Romans 8:14-17	John 14: 8-17 (25-27)
June 12th	1 Kings 21:1-10 (11-14) 15-21 <i>a</i>	Psalm 5:1-8	Galatians 2:15-21	Luke 7:36 to 8:3
June 19th	1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7) 8-15 <i>a</i>	Psalm 42; 43	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39
June 26th	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14	Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62

FARWAY METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

JUNE

- 5th 11am Local arrangements
 12th 3pm conducted by Revd. Brian Hadfield
 19th 11am conducted by Mrs. Pam Murphy
 25th 3pm conducted by Revd. Ben Haslam H.C.

JULY

- 3rd No service
 10th 3pm conducted by Revd. Steve Santry
 17th 11am conducted by Dr. Alan Mcilveen
 24th 3pm conducted by Revd. Ben Haslam. H.C.
 31st 3pm Our Celebration of 125+2 years of our church with a SONGS OF PRAISE
 conducted by Revd. Ben Haslam. Followed by a Tea in the village hall.
 Come and help us Celebrate.

- AUGUST 7th** 11am -conducted by Mrs. Ann Skinner



JULY

	St. Mary's ~ OFFWELL	St. Michael & All Angels ~ FARWAY	St. Cuthbert's ~ WIDWORTHY
July 3rd	9:30am Holy Communion		9:30am Family Service
July 10th			9:30am Family Service
July 17th	10:15am Family Service	11:15am Holy Communion	9:30am Holy Communion
July 24th	5:00pm BCP Evensong		9:30am Family Service
July 31st	5:00pm Benefice Service at Widworthy - All are welcome		
Aug7th	9:30am Holy Communion		9:30am Family Service

BIBLE READINGS

July 3rd	2 Kings 5:1-14	Psalm 30	Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 10th	Amos 7:7-17	Psalm 82	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
July 17th	Amos 8:1-12	Psalm 52	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42
July 24th	Hosea 1:2-10	Psalm 85	Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)	Luke 11:1-13
July 31st	Hosea 11:1-11	Psalm 107:1-9, 43	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
Aug7th	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40

BENEFACTURE CHURCHWARDENS FARWAY

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OFFWELL

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Websites:

www.farwaydevon.org.uk

www.offwell.org

www.widworthyparishcouncil.co.uk

www.achurchnearyou.com

www.explorechurches.org

2022 DIARY DATES

June, Sunday 5 th	OFFWELL	JUBILEE STREET PARTY 2:30pm
June, Sunday 5 th	FARWAY VH	JUBILEE AFTERNOON TEA 2:00pm
June, Sunday 5 th	WIDWORTHY St. Cuthbert's	JUBILEE - SONGS OF PRAISE at 9:30am followed by refreshments
June, Wednesday 8 th	OFFWELL	LADIES LUNCH CLUB (2 nd in month)
June, Thursday 16 th	OFFWELL SC	BENEFICE COFFEE MORNING (3 rd in month)
July Wednesday 13 th	OFFWELL	LADIES LUNCH CLUB (2 nd in month)
July Sunday 17 th	OFFWELL	CREAM TEA 3:00pm
July, Thursday 21 st	OFFWELL SC	BENEFICE COFFEE MORNING (3 rd in month)
July, Saturday 23 rd	FARWAY	FLOWER SHOW 2:30PM
July, Sunday 31 st	WIDWORTHY St. Cuthbert's	BENEFICE SONGS OF PRAISE at 5:00pm followed by refreshments.
Sept. Saturday 10 th	ST. MARY'S	DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES DAY - am
Sept. Saturday 10 th	OFFWELL VH	FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW - pm
Sept. Friday 30 th	OFFWELL VH	HARVEST SUPPER 6/6:30pm
Oct. Sunday 2 nd	WIDWORTHY St. Cuthbert's	HARVEST FESTIVAL in the church at 4:00pm followed by a cream tea
Nov. Friday 18 th	OFFWELL VH	QUIZ NIGHT 6:30 for 7:00pm
Dec. Sunday 18 th	ST. MARY'S	CHRISTINGLE/CAROL SERVICE 4:00pm

Benefice Coffee Morning

for all our Parishes

Thursday 16th June

Thursday 21st July

From 10:30am to 12 noon

At Offwell, Social Club Room



This is for everyone. Whether you go to church or not you will be made very welcome. You just have to enjoy coffee, home made cake and a chat!



CREAM TEA, OFFWELL

Sunday 17th July at 3pm

To be held in the Offwell Rectory garden if fine weather, otherwise in the village hall.

£5 per person. As well as a social, this event is to raise money for fabric repairs at St. Mary's.