



PEWS NEWS

SUNDAY 6TH JULY

10am Holy Communion, Dunsfold

The Collect

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers

The Sick: Marilyn Bailey, Sandra Baxter-Brown, James Field, Jacquie Griffiths, Sheila Jones, Cindy Kennedy, Stacey Medalyer, Christine Miles, Ruth Wilkinson, Jacky Williams and Hazel Wiltshire.



Sunday 13th July (10am) Cafe Church, Winn Hall

Sunday 13th July (4pm) Funday@4

Sunday 20th July (10am) Parish Communion

Sunday 20th July (6pm) Open air Hascombe Pond Service

Sunday 27th July (10am) Joint Parish Communion, Hascombe

The Carpenter's Lantern

In a quiet village nestled in the hills, there lived an old carpenter named Elias. His hands were worn, his back bent from decades of labour, and yet his eyes still sparkled with peace. Though his shop was small and his tools simple, people travelled from miles around to have Elias repair their broken chairs, mend old cradles, and shape crosses for churches.



One day, a young man named Jonas stumbled into the shop just before closing. He looked ragged, carrying nothing but a worn satchel and a bitter scowl.

"Please sir, I need work," Jonas said. "I've tried everywhere. No one wants a man with a difficult past."

Elias looked up from his bench and simply said, "Wood remembers scars. So do hands. Come back at sunrise."

The Next Morning

Jonas returned, unsure if it was foolish hope or sheer desperation that had brought him back. Elias handed him a block of cedar and pointed to a broken lantern on the shelf.

“Fix the light,” Elias said.

“But I don’t know how.”

Elias smiled. “Neither did I, once.”

Weeks Turned to Months

Jonas swept sawdust, carried timber, and learned to plane and chisel. He never talked about his past, but Elias never asked. Instead, he spoke gently each day about the One who had once called himself a carpenter — the one who “makes all things new.”

One evening, after a long day, Jonas sat outside the shop, watching the hills catch the last fire of the sun. He finally broke the silence.

“I did terrible things. I stole, I hurt people. My father said I was lost. That no one could forgive someone like me.”

Elias didn’t look surprised. “Do you know what this place used to be?” he asked.

Jonas shook his head.

“A tavern. Full of darkness. I drank away my family, my peace, my soul. Then I decided I must change and I gave my life to Christ. He didn’t fix everything at once. But He handed me a chisel and said, ‘Build again.’”

A New Light

That night, Jonas finished the lantern — once broken and rusted — now polished and glowing with warm oil light. Elias hung it on the shop door.

“Why bother?” Jonas asked. “No one walks the road this late.”

Elias whispered, “Because someone might. And they’ll need to know the way home.”

Reflection

In the light of the lantern, Jonas saw something he hadn’t felt in years: hope. Sometimes, God doesn’t erase our scars — He **redeems** them. He teaches us to rebuild, to restore, to light the way for others who think they’re too far gone. Because with Christ, no one is too lost to come home.

The Parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7)

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Then Jesus told them this parable: “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”

