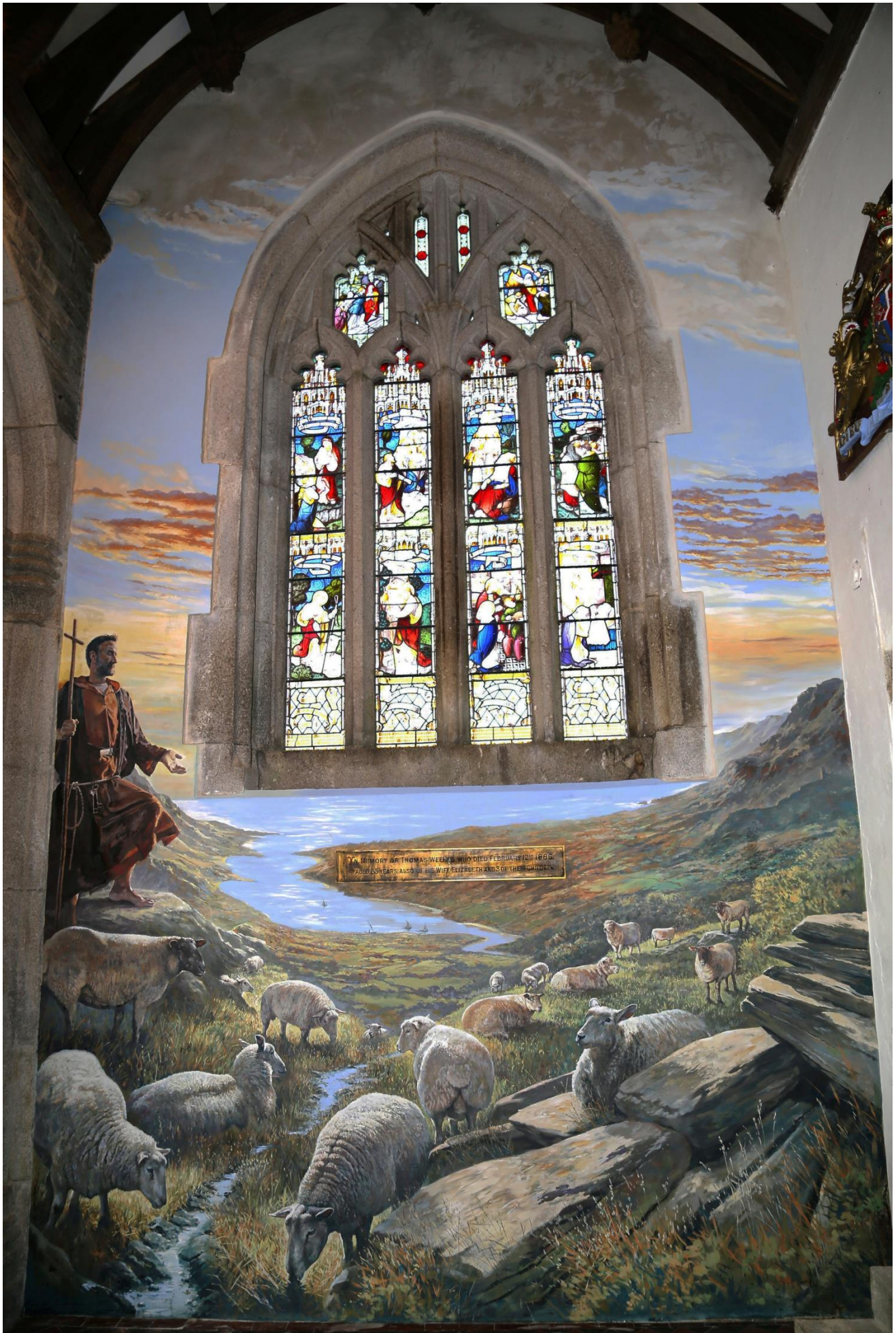


## The Mural on the West Wall



We had to remove the plaster from the west wall as it was breaking away in several places and was therefore quite dangerous. The wall was very damp caused by the close proximity of the yew trees on the outside and paint on the inside which would not let the wall “breathe” The wall was re-plastered with lime mortar in the summer and was now dry enough to repaint.

When we were preparing the ‘Church Trail’ we realised that, although the church is dedicated to St Peter, the only reference to him were the keys on the side of the font. On the bell ringers outing a number of us were extremely impressed by the medieval murals on the walls of one of the churches which were being uncovered. We therefore thought it would be very good to have a modern mural bringing alive some of the references in the New Testament to our patron saint.

Jon Minshull has a proven record of producing excellent murals both inside and on the exterior of buildings. He normally works in oils sealing the wall afterwards with varnish to preserve the painting. As we could not have any covering which would seal the wall he had to source special clay paints.

The PCC approved the sketches he produced and he started work. As he was leaving the church on the first evening there was a particularly lovely sunset which he photographed and reproduced on the wall the next day. So we have a genuine Lamerton sunset in church. A great deal of local Dartmoor landscape is incorporated into the painting along with Dartmoor Grey Faced and White Faced Dartmoor sheep. A number of his father’s sheep are immortalised in the work!

The lighting in the painting is based on where the sun actually sets in the West. At sunset the light comes through the window where the sun would be in the painting connecting the painting to the real world outside and creates a beautiful glow.

The mural took just two weeks of very intensive work to complete. We feel it is an extremely beautiful and very relevant addition to St. Peter’s church and we hope you will enjoy it.

The mural was completed in October 2015 before the rededication of the church by the Bishop of Plymouth following extensive renovations to the tower, rainwater goods and east gable ends.



To see Jon’s other work please visit [www.thealecrafts.co.uk](http://www.thealecrafts.co.uk)

The mural depicts several very important occasions during the time St Peter was with Jesus.

Peter was a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee when Jesus first met him.

*Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."  
Matthew 4:18-19*



*As He was going along by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.... Mark 1:16-18*

In the picture you can see Peter’s boat abandoned on the shore while the other fishermen are still out fishing.

Peter was often picked out as a special disciple by Jesus who told Peter that he was the rock on which the Church was to be built.

*And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Matthew 16:18*



*And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone. John 1:42*

Peter is standing firm on solid rock being the spiritual rock while on the right of the picture is Brentor church - the physical church built on a rock.

The keys at Peter's waist – Lamerton church keys – are symbols of the spiritual keys which Peter was given which give access to Heaven



*I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matthew 16:19*

Sheep and shepherding are mentioned many times in both the old and new testaments. In biblical times sheep were extremely important as they provided clothing from their wool, milk and meat to eat and shelter from tents made out of their skins. Shepherds lived with their flocks and led them to safe pastures to feed. So when Jesus told Peter -“Feed my sheep” He was giving him a most important job.



*He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my sheep.” John 21:16*



And the sheep about to drink from the stream .....

*For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. Revelation 7:17*