

*Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year*

December 2023

Dear friends,

Sending this season's greetings, I hope you have been well in the past year in the situation where the pandemic of COVID-19 seems to have faded away, although the globe is getting warmer and warmer.

This year in addition to a short trip to Shiga Prefecture to visit the Buddhist altar of my late wife's parents in May, I have made another domestic trip in late September to Aomori in north Honshu to see the rice field art and visit The Munakata Shiko Woodcut Museum (see, my homepage), and then to Hokkaido.

A target at Hokkaido was The Otaru Art Base, or The Otaru Art Village, where four historical warehouses and buildings were converted to accommodate and display art collections, funded by Mr. Akio Nitōri, a successful furniture manufacturer. For this Christmas, I would like to present a short report on those collections, viz. stained glass windows.

I wish the war between Ukraine and Russia as well as the trouble at Gaza and Israel to end and for 2024 to be a peaceful year for you and everyone.

Yours sincerely,

*Toshi*

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(All pictures in this card were taken by Nikon Z6 with a Nikkor 24-70 mm zoom lens)

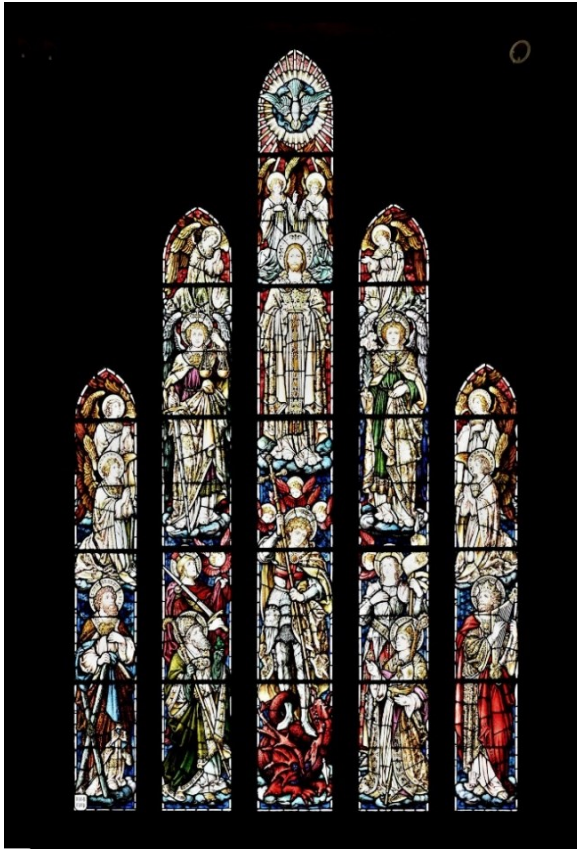


Fig.1 *God and the Glory of Great Britain*

From the left: St. Andrews (Scotland), St. Patrick (Ireland), St. George (England), St. Nicholas & Jeanne d'Arc (France), St. David (Wales). 542.0h × 65.0w cm, ca. 1919. The church and workshop unknown, The Stained Glass Museum, Otaru.