

THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

1 The holly and the ivy
when they are both full grown,
of all the trees that are in the wood
the holly bears the crown.

2 The holly bears a blossom,
white as the lily flower,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
to be our sweet Saviour.

3 The holly bears a berry,
as red as any blood,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to do poor sinners good.

4 The holly bears a prickle,
as sharp as any thorn,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
on Christmas day in the morn.

5 The holly bears a bark,
as bitter as any gall,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
for to redeem us all.

The rising of the sun
and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ,
sweet singing in the choir.

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