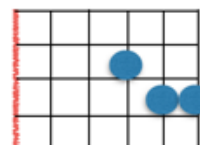


The Holly & the Ivy

Traditional

D *G D* *G A*
 The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown,
D *G D*
 Of all the trees that are in the wood,
G D Dsus4/A D A D
 The holly bears the crown.

Dsus4/A



D *G D* *G A*
 O the rising of the sun and the running of the deer,
D *G D*
 The playing of the merry organ,
G D Dsus4/A D A D
 Sweet singing of the choir.

D *G D* *G A*
 The holly bears the blossom as white as any snow,
D *G D*
 And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
G D Dsus4/A D A D
 To be our dear Savior.

D *G D* *G A*
 The holly and the ivy now both are full well grown,
D *G D*
 Of all the trees that are in the wood,
G D Dsus4/A D A D
 The holly bears the crown.

Christmas as you go

Scripture and History

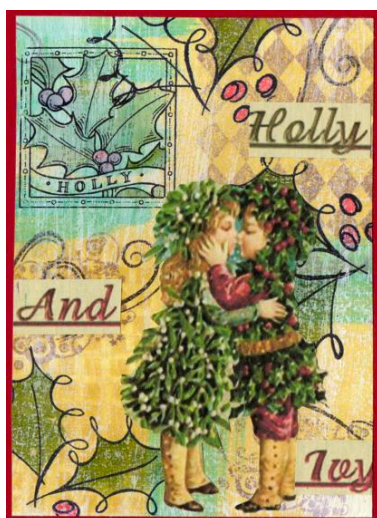
Luke 2:8-19 Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.

It appears that in 1561 W. Copeland paid the Company of Stationers 4*d.* for a license to print "A ballette entitled *Holy and Hyve.*" Brand, who has printed this carol in his "Observations on Popular Antiquities," says that from it "it should seem that holly was used only to deck the inside of houses at Christmas, while ivy was used not only as a vintner's sign, but also among the evergreens at funerals."

Source: William Henry Husk, "Song of the Nativity". (London: John Camden Hotten, 1868), p. 131. The description comes from a manuscript of Henry IV's time, in the British Museum.



Holly and Ivy Sampler

Source sundaypostcardart.wordpress.com



Jesus Breaking Bread

By J Drake

Image from WildBlessings.com



Source www.doncadoret.net

Joshua Sylvester notes, “This quaint Carol is of the time of Henry VI. Stow says, ‘every man's house of olde time was decked with Holly and Ivie in the winter, especially at Christmas.’” It appears that formerly it was the custom at this season to set up in each village a long pole, decked with Holly and Ivy, after the fashion of the May-pole in summer time.

Joshua Sylvester, “A Garland of Christmas Carols, Ancient and Modern Including Some Never Before Given In Any Collection”. Edited, With Notes. (London: John Camden Hotten, 1861).

Christmas as you go