

## The holly and the ivy (Walford Davies)

Sunday, 03 October 2010 19:48 - Last Updated Monday, 17 December 2012 20:38

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The holly and the ivy, set to an arrangement by [H. Walford Davies](#) , sung by the Choir of King's College, Cambridge

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

*O the rising of the sun  
And the running of the deer  
The playing of the merry organ  
Sweet singing of the choir*

The holly bears a blossom  
As white as lily flower  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To be our sweet Saviour

The holly bears a berry  
As red as any blood  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To do poor sinners good

The holly bears a prickle  
As sharp as any thorn;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ

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On Christmas Day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark  
As bitter as any gall;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
For to redeem us all.

The holly and the ivy  
Now both are full well grown,  
Of all the trees that are in the wood,  
The holly bears the crown.