

35 SANS DAY CAROL

(NATIVITY: PASSIONTIDE TO EASTERTIDE)

Cornish

Ibid
(M.S.)

SOPRANO
ALTO

1. Now the hol-ly bears a ber-ry as white as the milk, And_
 2. Now the hol-ly bears a ber-ry as green as the grass, And_
 3. Now the hol-ly bears a ber-ry as black as the coal, And_
 4. Now the hol-ly bears a ber-ry, as blood is it red, Then_

TENOR
BASS

Ma - ry bore_ Je - sus, who was wrapped up in silk : }
 Ma - ry bore_ Je - sus, who died on the cross : } And_
 Ma - ry bore_ Je - sus, who died for us all : }
 trust we our Sa-viour, who rose from the dead :

Ma - ry bore_ Je - sus Christ our Sa - viour for to be, And the

first tree in the green-wood, it was the hol - ly, hol - ly, hol -

-ly! And the first tree in the green-wood, it was the hol - ly!

The Sans Day or St. Day Carol has been so named because the melody and the first three verses were taken down at St. Day in the parish of Gwennap, Cornwall. St. Day or St. They was a Breton saint whose cult was widely spread in Armorican Cornwall. We owe the carol to the kindness of the Rev. G. H. Doble, to whom Mr. W. D. Watson sang it after hearing an old man, Mr. Thomas Beard, sing it at St. Day. A version in Cornish was subsequently published ('Ma gron war'n gelinen') with a fourth stanza, here translated and added to Mr. Beard's English version.