

Coventry Carol (traditional English carol). December 28 is the memorial of the Holy Innocents, the second of the sad observations during Christmas. Holy Innocents Day is based upon the slaughter of children by Herod. (Music: 16th century English. Often mixed 2/4 and 3/4 time, as below 3/4 time only) (I, I)

Em Em B Em Em Em D D Am B B B
 Lul ly lul lay, thou little tiny Child.

Em B Em Am Am B Em Em Em Em Em Em
 By, by, lully, lul lay Lul

D D Em D D G Am6 Am6 Am6 B B B
 lay, thou little tiny child

Em B Em Am Am B E E E E E E
 By, by, lully lul lay

Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,
 By, by, lully, lullay.
 Lullay, Thou little tiny Child.
 By, by, lully, lullay.

O sisters, too, how may we do,
 For to preserve this day;
 This poor Youngling for whom we do sing,
 By, by, lully, lullay.

Herod the King, in his raging,
 Charged he hath this day;
 His men of might, in his own sight,
 All children young, to slay.

Then woe is me, poor Child, for Thee,
 And ever mourn and say;
 For Thy parting, nor say nor sing,
 By, by, lully, lullay.