

The First Christmas



Hymn for Christmas

(Words and Music by His Eminence CARDINAL O'CONNELL.)

Hark the sound of angel voices
 Breaks the silence of the night,
 Lo! the heav'nly host rejoices
 'Mid a flood of radiant light;
 And the shepherds gaze in wonder
 As they hear the angels sing:
 "Glory, glory in the highest,
 Glory to our new-born King."

And the Maiden Mother holy
 Bids them to her Babe draw near,
 For she knows the poor and lowly
 To His Heart Divine are dear;
 And they gather round the manger,
 And their hearts with glad accord
 Offer Him their loyal homage
 And proclaim Him Christ the Lord.

As the shepherds hear the story
 Of Emmanuel's wondrous birth,
 Quick they haste to pay their homage
 To the King of Heav'n and Earth;
 All at Bethlehem's manger kneeling,
 By the light of faith they see
 God's own Son, His pow'r concealing,
 In the direst poverty.

Come, then, Christians, let us gather
 With the shepherds and adore;
 Let us give Him our devotion
 And our love for evermore,
 For the Son of God, our Saviour,
 Asks us only for our love,
 And the Child Divine shall lead us
 To our home in heav'n above.

Chorus.

Let the heav'ns and earth adore
 Christ the Lord, for He is King for ever-
 more.