

Seven Joys of Mary sung by Dick Parsons (as collected)

Collected by Gwilym Davies 28-Oct-1979

Sung by Dick Parsons (late 70s) at Shurdington

The first good joy that Ma-ry had, it was the joy of one, To
work on earth be - gun good man and hap-py may we be. Praise

5 see her own son Je-sus Christ his work on earth be - gun His
Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost throughall e - ter - ni - ty.

The first good joy that Mary had it was the joy of one,
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, his work on earth begun
His work on earth begun good man, and happy may we be;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost through all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of two,
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, making the lame to go.
Making the lame to go, good man, and happy may we be;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost through all eternity.

(And so on, with)

three making the blind to see

four preaching the scriptures o'er

five making the dead alive

six upon the crucifix

seven ascending into heaven.

Song as collected by Gwilym Davies. There is not a separate copy for singing

Source: Dick Parsons recording and 'Let Us Be Merry' by Gwilym Davies and Roy Palmer 1996

Notes: The enumeration in song of Mary's joys goes back perhaps to the fourteenth century with the 'Joyes Fyve' of the Sloane manuscripts. The catalogue sometimes extends to twelve, as in the example noted by Cecil Sharp in 1907 from Joseph Evans of Old Sodbury. 'From Let Us Be Merry' by Gwilym Davies and Roy Palmer 1996

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