

Twelve Days of Christmas
Theme: Keeping the Spirit of Christmas

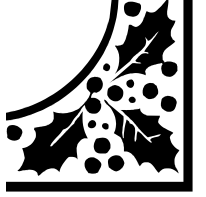
Background: From 1558-1829, Roman Catholics in England were not allowed to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote the carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas," as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their Church. Each element in the carol has code words for a religious reality which the children could remember.

Carol

Partridge in a pear tree
Two turtle doves
Three French hens
Four calling birds
Five golden rings
Six geese a-laying
Seven swans a-swimming
Eight maids a-milking
Nine ladies dancing
Ten lords a-leaping
Eleven pipers
Twelve drummers

Symbol

Jesus Christ
Old and New Testaments
Faith, hope and love
Four Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
The Torah (the first five books of the Old Testament)
Six days of creation
Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Eight Beatitudes
Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
Ten Commandments
Eleven faithful disciples
Twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed



This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.