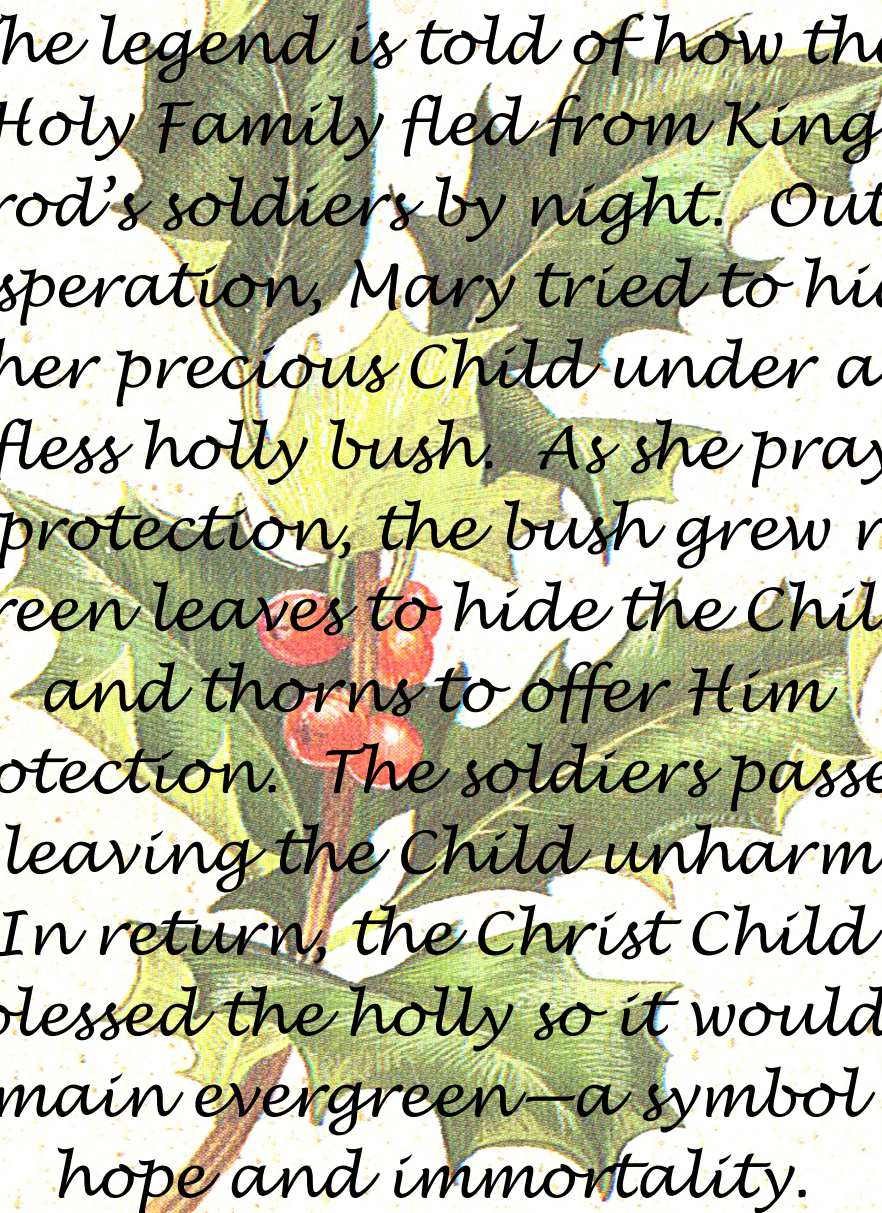


# The Legend of the Holly



The legend is told of how the Holy Family fled from King Herod's soldiers by night. Out of desperation, Mary tried to hide her precious Child under a leafless holly bush. As she prayed for protection, the bush grew new green leaves to hide the Child and thorns to offer Him protection. The soldiers passed by, leaving the Child unharmed. In return, the Christ Child blessed the holly so it would remain evergreen—a symbol of hope and immortality.

*English Holly*