

Silent Night was written in 1818, by an Austrian priest Joseph Mohr. He was told the day before Christmas that the church organ was broken and would not be prepared in time for Christmas Eve. He was saddened by this and could not think of Christmas without music, so he wanted to write a carol that could be sung by choir to guitar music. He sat down and wrote three stanzas.

Christmas Raffle for MacGugin's Pig

The snow lay sparkling on the ground, and all around was gay,

'Twas a merry Xmas evening up in Placentia Bay.

It seemed as if the world was there, the crowd it was so big,

'Twas pay a buck and try your luck for Sandy MacGugin's pig.

An old time Xmas raffle, for a pig that was won by Cuff,
Who bid good-bye, his time was nigh, he's bust on pork and duff.

Sandy's wife cleared up for the dance, with a smile so sweet and big,

Well she might, for I know that night she cleaned up on the pig.

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The fiddler he was in good trim, he played loose though he was tight,

His music made the tomcods waltz, near Sandy's stage that night,

When the dancing began, girls all looked for a man, their toes in the floor they dig,

For weeks they were sore, but they're longing for more, Like the night that they raffled the pig.

The snowball king was in his glee, he banished care and strife,
He was a bag of fleas that night, chock full of life.

The ale king too was present, and sang with might and main



The common abbreviation for Christmas to Xmas is derived from the Greek alphabet. X is letter Chi, which is the first letter of Christ's name in the Greek alphabet.

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That thirsty song that make you long, happy days are here again.

Katie Renouf that night brought her snuff, often a pinch she would take,
She tickled the crowd, cause her clothes were so loud, they'd keep everybody
awake,

Tom and his lassie were up from Trepassey, the pig they thought they'd take back,
They were forty that night, and the pork was in sight, till Cuff put his five on their
Jack.

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Big Jim Kean from Harbor Main was there
that night with his stock,
She had a wart upon her nose, her face
would stop a clock;
One eye was glass, her leg was cork, on
her head she had a wig;
Alas poor Jim, we said to him, he should
swop her for the pig.

Soon the Brown Mule done its duty, big
Jim began the job,
He tripped the blonde from Kettle Cove
Pond, and broke MacGugin's gob.
He took the door from off the hinges, and
tried to dance a jig,
But the floor came up and hit him, at the
raffle for the pig.

MacGugin swore that he'd no more the
snowball boys invite,
Sure we wore out our welcome at
MacGugin's home that night.
And though we may not go again, we'll
remember for many a day
The Xmas raffle for the pig up in
Placentia Bay.