What do the Saints Say?

John 8: 1-11

An Excerpt from *The Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture*

The story of Jesus and the woman caught in adultery (John 7:53–8:11) has a complicated history. It does not appear in any major Greek copy of John before the sixth century, which is why it appears in brackets in the NABRE, although it does appear in earlier Latin manuscripts. In some Greek manuscripts of John, the story appears in places other than its present location. One manuscript group has the account at the end of the Gospel, after 21:25. In addition, it appears in some manuscripts of the Gospel of Luke, after 21:38. The Greek language in this story differs noticeably from that in the rest of John. These factors suggest that the story did not originate with the rest of the Fourth Gospel. Rather, it resembles conflict stories found in the Synoptics.

[7:53–8:3] Early in the morning on the next day, Jesus went into the temple area, where he attracted a crowd. While he was teaching, the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery. Although the Torah prescribed an investigative test for suspected cases of adultery (Num 5:12–31), there is apparently no ambiguity here: this woman is unquestionably guilty. They made her stand in the middle as one accused of a capital crime (see Sir 23:22–24).

[8:4–6] The woman's accusers address Jesus as Teacher and claim, This woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. According to the Torah, adultery is a capital offense, and Deut 22:22–24 prescribes stoning for both the man and woman involved (see also Lev 20:10). Since the woman is unquestionably guilty of a capital crime, the answer should be straightforward: she should be stoned to death. But they ask Jesus, So what do you say?, not to administer justice (notice that the adulterous man is nowhere to be found) but to entrap Jesus. If the scribes and Pharisees can corner Jesus into taking a stance against the law, then they will have some charge to bring against him (see 5:45; Matt 12:10; Acts 24:2). The meaning of Jesus' nonverbal response—he bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger—is unclear. It could simply be a sign of indifference, showing that he refuses to be drawn into this trap. Another possibility is that Jesus' gesture is a subtle allusion to Jer 17:13, which literally reads, "O Hope of Israel, O YHWH, all who abandon you will be put to shame, those who turn away will be written in the earth because they have abandoned the Fountain of Living Waters."3 By writing on the ground, Jesus would be reminding the woman's accusers that they too are sinners subject to God's judgment, sinners who refuse Jesus' invitation to come in faith to him, the "Fountain of Living Waters" (Jer 17:13; John 7:37).

[8:7–8] After the scribes continued asking, Jesus straightened up and said, Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her. According to Deut 17:6–7, the witnesses who testify to the guilt of an accused person in a capital case are the ones who begin the execution. The scribes and Pharisees are the woman's accusers. But Jesus reframes the issue by calling attention to the accusers' own sinfulness. While the particular sins may differ, both the woman and her accusers are sinners and stand guilty before God. Jesus thus exhorts the accusers to reject self-righteousness and embrace genuine humility, which is to recognize the truth about oneself before God and with respect to others (see Matt 7:1–5; Luke 6:41–42). After this pronouncement, Jesus once more bent down and wrote on the ground.

[8:9] After hearing Jesus' words, the woman's accusers went away one by one, beginning with the elders. Their motives in leaving are not clear. Perhaps they realize that their plan to entrap Jesus has failed. Or perhaps Jesus' words touched their hearts: they acknowledge their own sinfulness and have a conversion of heart. After all departed, Jesus was alone with the woman before him.

[8:10–11] Jesus addresses the woman and calls attention to the fact that all her accusers are gone. The woman acknowledges that no one is left to condemn her, and Jesus replies, Neither do I condemn you. As he did to the formerly paralyzed man in 5:14, Jesus tells her to change her ways: Go, [and] from now on do not sin any more. Jesus offers this woman a fresh start by turning away from her sins and opening herself to God's infinite mercy.

Pope Francis on Christ's Mercy: [This] Gospel presents to us the episode of the adulterous woman ([John] 8:1–11), whom Jesus saves from being condemned to death. Jesus' attitude is striking: we do not hear words of scorn, we do not hear words of condemnation, but only words of love, of mercy, which are an invitation to conversion. "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again" (v. 11). Ah! Brothers and Sisters, God's face is the face of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God's patience, the patience he has with each one of us? That is his mercy. He always has patience, patience with us, he understands us, he waits for us, he does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to him with a contrite heart. (Pope Francis, "Angelus," March 17, 2013).

Reflection and Application (7:53–8:11) Jesus shows loving-kindness to a person involved in sexual immorality. Many men and women are in a similar situation today. Turning away from such sinful activity can be very difficult. The gentle mercy of Jesus, which is infinitely greater than the worst of our sins, is available to all in the sacrament of reconciliation, through which he pardons all our sins, even the most serious ones. Moreover, Christians who are not involved in such sinful behavior do well to avoid the proud self-righteousness of the woman's accusers and instead imitate Jesus, not condemning but lovingly summoning the sinner to repent and live a better life.

St. Ann's Schedule of Events:

Monday, April 4th
6:30 a.m. Confessions
7:00 a.m. Mass
6:30 p.m. Youth Formation Class
Tuesday, April 5th
6:30 a.m. Confessions
7:00 a.m. Mass
6:30 p.m. Youth Formation Class
Wednesday, April 6th
6:30 a.m. Confessions
7:00 a.m. Mass
6:00 – 8:00 p.m. St. Ann "The Light is on for You" Lenten Penance Service
7:00 p.m. KC Meeting
Thursday, April 7th
6:30 a.m. Confessions
7:00 a.m. Mass
Friday, April 8th
5:00 p.m. Confessions
5:00 p.m. Children's Way of the Cross
6:00 p.m. Mass
6:30 p.m. Way of the Cross
Saturday, April 9th
3:30 p.m. Confessions
4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday, April 10th
7:30 a.m. Confessions
8:00 a.m. Mass
9:30 a.m. Confessions
10:00 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Altar Server Training
6:00 p.m. Confessions
6:30 p.m. Mass
6:30 p.m. 9th Grade Confirmation Prep & Mass

For the Week of April 4th to April 10th

7:00 A.M.-Monday, April 4th
All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*

7:00 A.M.-Tuesday, April 5th
All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*
Brooke & Brittany

7:00 A.M.-Wednesday, April 6th
All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*
Renee Ward

7:00 A.M.-Thursday, April 7th
All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*
Linda Whipple Schouest (DA) & Celeste Schouest, Connie & Jim Doll, Lily & Elrien

7:00 A.M.-Friday, April 8th
All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*
Emsy Foret & Family

4:00 P.M.- Saturday, April 9th

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*

Barry Aucoin Sr., Allen, Clarice & John Bascle, Peter & Daisy Babin Family,
Lester & Alicia Babin Family, Gordon & Merlin Sewzeneau, Hebert & Marion Porche Family,
Steve Porche, Lawlis & Clara Barris, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Jerry & Matthew Arceneaux, Neva Morris, Mia Bourg,
Andrew Jr, Clyde, Edna, Elie & Morris Pitre, Clyde, Elizabeth, Curtis & Vera Lirette, David Naquin Sr., Keith & Coby Dupre,
Arthur & Elise Lirette, Joseph Sr., Celma Mae & Annie Ellender, Marie Gaston, Charlene Griffin, Bruce Blanchard,
Special Intentions, KeriLynn Niette, Kenneth White, Curry Matherne, Cecile Fabre, Wilbert, Elsie & Linda Hebert,
Samuel Hebert, Salome & Matthew Matherne, Ray & Nancy Matherne, Raymond, Kory, & Nora Matherne,
Richard & Anita Martin, Rickie Rosamond, William & Marian Rhodes, Errol & Sybil Guidry, Sherry & Rhonda Rhodes,
Ricky Chauvin, Christine Fontenot, Kenneth & Marcia Porche, Anthony Rhodes

8:00 A.M.-Sunday, April 10th

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*

Rhea P. & Eddie Voisin, Jr., M/M Vayne Bascle, Lionel Bascle & Family, Arthur Breaux Family,
Gail Boquet Fabre, Aubrey Lee Boquet, Authur Fabre, M/M Irby Petit, Cindy Rodrigue Broussard,
Barry Aucoin Sr. , Loyd Savin, Selma Plaisance, Wilma, Eugene & John Dusenbery, Veronica Trahan,
Amelie Thibodeaux, Terry Lirette, Ella Mae Guidry, Jesse Fanguy Sr., A.J. Theriot, Ann & Clyde Hebert,
Carey Naquin, Brad M. Falgout, Rusty Rodrigue, Hannah Authement, Sterling Sr. & Mary Authement,
Sterling Authement Jr., Randy & Mark Naquin, Eugene & Leona Theriot, Sr., Israel & Mae Authement,
Marion & Irma Bascle, Norman & Eunice Falgout, Dean & Dot Bascle, David & Iris Bascle, Tel Meeker,
Allen Theriot, Bernard Dupre, Tessa Dupre, Craig Dupre, Meva Blanchard, Butch LeCompte, Eugene Theriot Jr.,
Earline Theriot, David Percle, Francis & Iris Theriot, Patricia Grabert, Becky Gautreaux, Phillip Theriot,
David Massey Sr., Jenna Theriot, Brent Giordano, Norman Falgout Jr., Larry Falgout, Evelyn Falgout,
James Bergeron, Margie & Elton Thibodaux, Paul Jackson, Arnold Authement, Angela Authement, Pamela Falgout,
Terry & Lois Chaisson, Wiley & Irene Portie, Dolores & Gene Ventura, Pamela LeBouef,
Harry & Ruth Authement, Carl Authement, Jimmy & Sylvia Authement, Anthony (Tony) Pinell, Annie Guilfou,
Vin & Joyce LeBlanc & Family, Gilbert & Rita Bergeron & Family, Special Intentions, Leward & Christian Boquet

10:00 A.M.- Sunday, April 10th

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*

Barry Aucoin Sr. , Floyd Trosclair, Living and deceased members of the Naquin, Lajanie, LeBoeuf, & Lapeyrouse Families,
Lillian Theriot, Arthur "Tony" & Hazel Ellender & Family, Leroy J. Trosclair & Family, Susan C. Ellender & Family,
Waldron Lapeyrouse, Lanny Foret

6:30 P.M.- Sunday, April 10th

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: *Parishioners of St. Ann*

Barry Aucoin Sr., Picou & Rogers Family, Donaldson & Scott Family

Memorials for the week of April 3, 2022

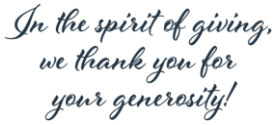
The Sanctuary Light this week in memory of: Erous Eschete by Linda McMath

The 2022 Paschal Candle in memory of: Michael Bascle by Dickie & Sharon Bascle

Stewardship of Treasure

March 26th & 27th, 2021

Regular Envelopes: $4,155.00+ Loose: $1,495.50 + $980.46 (online giving) = Total $6,630.96
Catholic Relief Services $608.00 + Loose: $719.40 + $5.00 (online giving) = Total $1,332.40
Maintenance Envelopes: $10.00 + $26.75 (online giving) = Total $36.75
Maintenance Collection (July 2021 – March 2022) = $18,155.37
Maintenance Expenses (July 2021 – March 2022) = $42,034.47



Announcements

2nd Collection – Church Maintenance

The 2nd Collection this week is for the church maintenance.

Altar server meeting

On April 10th at 11:00 a.m. (after 10:00 a.m. Mass) Father Cody will be hosting an altar server meeting for anyone interested in becoming an altar server. Children must have completed their 1st Communion to be eligible. Lunch will be served.

Email bulletins

Anyone interested in receiving the St. Ann weekly bulletin by email, please call the St. Ann office 985-594-3548 or email stannchurch@htdiocese.org to be added to our weekly email distribution.

St. Ann - Easter office schedule

The St. Ann office will be closed on Thursday, April 14th & Friday, April 15th.
The office will resume normal schedule on Monday, April 18th

Youth Formation

Youth Formation classes 4/4 & 4/5 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
9th Grade Mass & Class 4/10 6:30 p.m.
Youth Formation classes 4/11 & 4/12 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

PRAISE & PAINT

Friday, April 29, 2022 6:30 p.m. at the St. Ann Parish Center. Sunflower will be the theme! $35.00 per person and payments can be made by Venmo or directly to the St. Ann office. Please RSVP by 4/8/22 to reserve your spot. If you have any questions please call the St. Ann office.

Ministry Schedules

Church Cleaning:

Week of April 4th – Irma Authement

Week of April 11th – Charlene Aucoin, Lyndell Guedry, Shirley Melancon, Janet Tolleson, Una Hungate, Jeannie Usie

Homebound Ministry:

April 6th – Johnnie, Fr. Cody

April 13th – Fr. Cody, Bert, Kathie

Date	*Commentator/Lector*	*Eucharistic Ministers*
Saturday, April 2nd		
4:00 p.m. –	Cindy S. / Randolph B.	Sue R. / Steve R.
Sunday, April 3rd		
8:00 a.m. –	Jesse N. / David B.	Carol B. / Patsy E.
10:00 a.m. –	Sofie A. / Johnnie O.	Connie D. / Leslie B.
6:30 p.m. –	Alaina L. / Hayes B.	Ashley D. / Hayes B.
Saturday, April 9th		
4:00 p.m. –	Randolph B. / Cindy S.	Yvonne W. / Randolph B.
Sunday, April 10th		
8:00 a.m. –	Nick P. / Christine R.	Tim M. / Mona M.
10:00 a.m. –	Lisa L. / David L.	Gerald A. / Jerrod S.
6:30 p.m. –	Lisa R. / Amanda R.	Maria T. / Melody A.
Thursday, April 14th		
4:00 p.m. –	If you would like to volunteer, please call the office	
Friday, April 15th –		
3:45 p.m. –	If you would like to volunteer, please call the office	