

Zec 9:9-10
Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14
Rom 8:9, 11-13
Mt 11:25-30

Donald X. Burt, O.S.A.

It must be admitted that Augustine was somewhat long-winded and he knew it. On one particular hot summer day he ended by telling his listeners that the stench in the Church told him that he had talked too long. (*Commentary on Psalm 72, 34*) In order to avoid a like unpleasant experience, I offer the following brief reflection on the "Wonder of Christianity."

The great thing about Christianity is that its message can be understood by children like those mentioned in today's Gospel while keeping scholars busy for a lifetime. Even the tiniest child can say the "Our Father" and understand, while Augustine can write 14 books trying to explain what God is.

The list of essential truths of taught by Christ goes something like this:

1. God exists and loves us.
2. God became man and died for us so that we can get to heaven.
3. We can get to heaven if we try our best to love God above all and our neighbor as ourselves.
4. We can't do that on our own but God will help us if we ask him for the grace to do it.
5. We will live forever (whatever else we do) and if we love God and our neighbor, God lives in us now helping us to face the trials of this life bravely, helping us to make our eternity happy.
6. Someday we shall die but our death will be like a sleep and when we wake up we will find that we are at home with our flesh and blood ... Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

This is our faith as Christians:

- ... able to be known by children
- ... able to be wondered at through the rest of our eternal lives
