

Review of: "Catholicity in thirteen words"

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I have read the paper "Catholicity in thirteen words" and its reviews with great interest. Especially the title felt appealing, as Catholicism, Christianity or any religion are really hard to be summarized in 13 words. I can totally relate to the brave attempt by the Author to summarise the Catholic faith in few essential words and concepts. As he explains in the abstract: How could he surprise or interest university students in a post-Christian era? By keeping things down to the most essential elements, of course. The problem, in my view, is that these thirteen words/concepts refer to more words/concepts. And I very much doubt that somebody with little knowledge of the Christian doctrine would be able to grasp their meanings (some of them contentious even for theologians). For example, the thoughtful and thought-provoking explanation of "Incarnation" includes a reference to the original sin, which may be for some a "missing link".

Perhaps, it could be helpful to understand the target readership better and also the aim: is it a cognitive and historical endeavour? Or is it an attempt to raise the curiosity/interest of young people who may have fallen out of their Christian faith? Depending on the aim, the structure (and maybe content) of the paper would greatly differ, I guess.

Another point that I would like to raise is the mismatch between the title and the abstract: while the title foregrounds Catholicity, the abstract states: " So, I tried to summarize the Christian faith". Maybe, this could be clarified as Catholicity is a part but not the whole of the Christian faith.

I wish to thank the author for his very interesting and engaging read and I hope that my comments can prove helpful if he wishes to further elaborate on his paper.