Lemaître Conference 2024

Black Holes, Gravitational Waves and Space-Time Singularities

Second international conference to celebrate the legacy of G. Lemaître



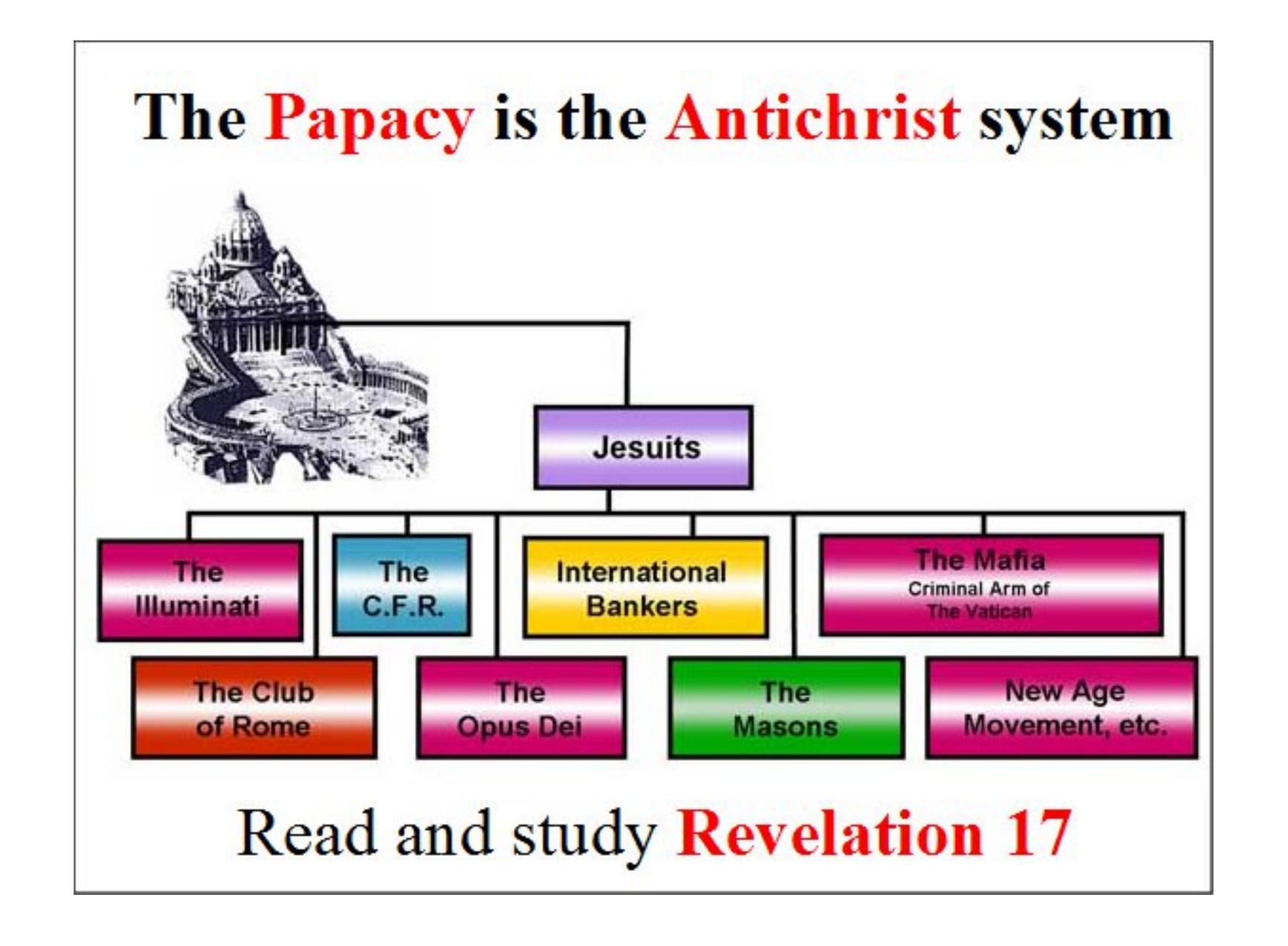
Vatican Observatory

Castel Gandolfo, Italy

17-21 June 2024

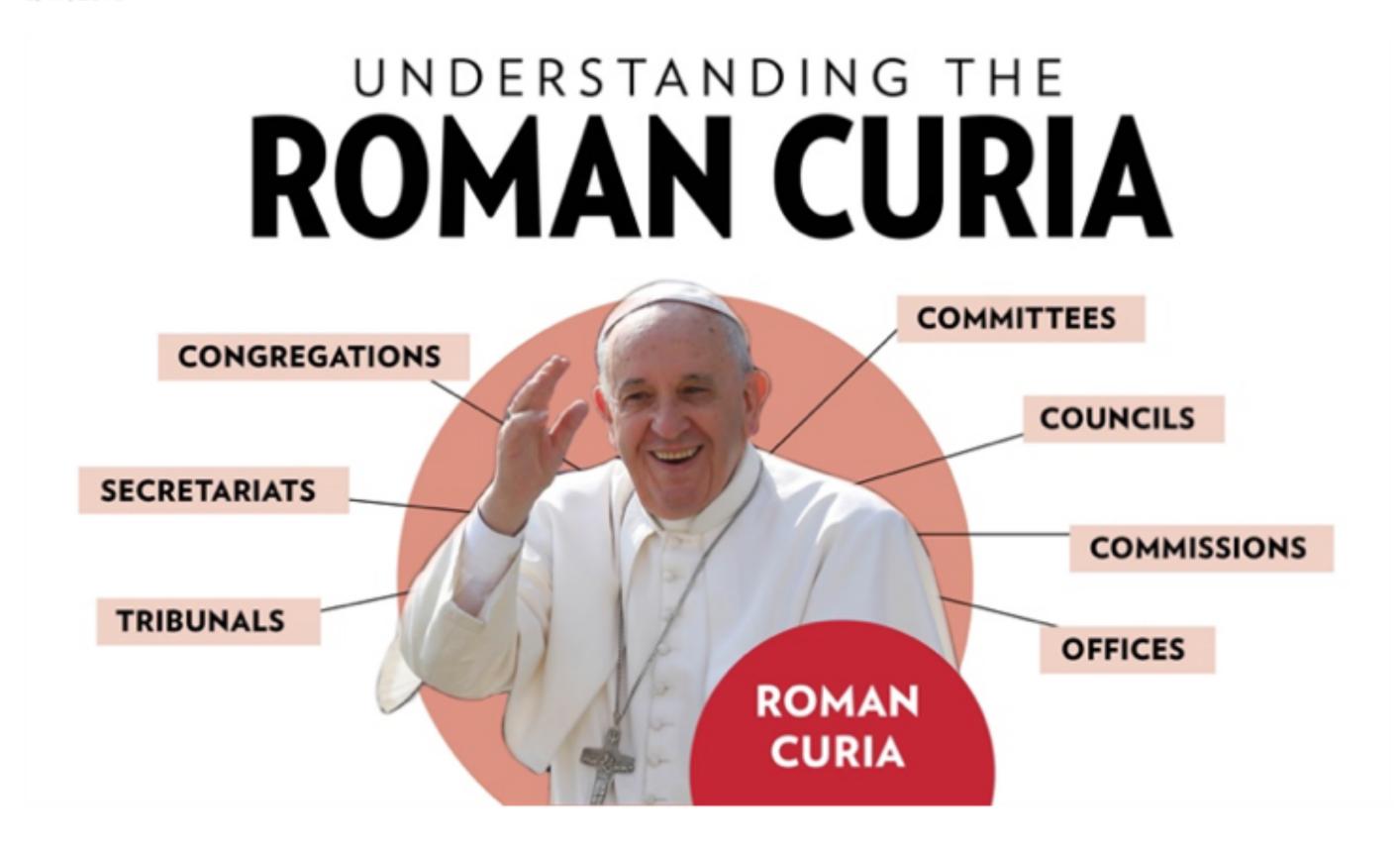






Understanding the Roman Curia An overview of the offices and leaders of the central government of the Catholic Church Matthew Bunson OSV Newsweekly

5/17/2015



A somewhat friendlier version... the Curia ("Court")

In a famous exchange between Pope St. John XXIII and the press after his election in 1958, the saintly pope supposedly was asked how many people work in the Roman Curia. He thought for a moment and replied, "About half."

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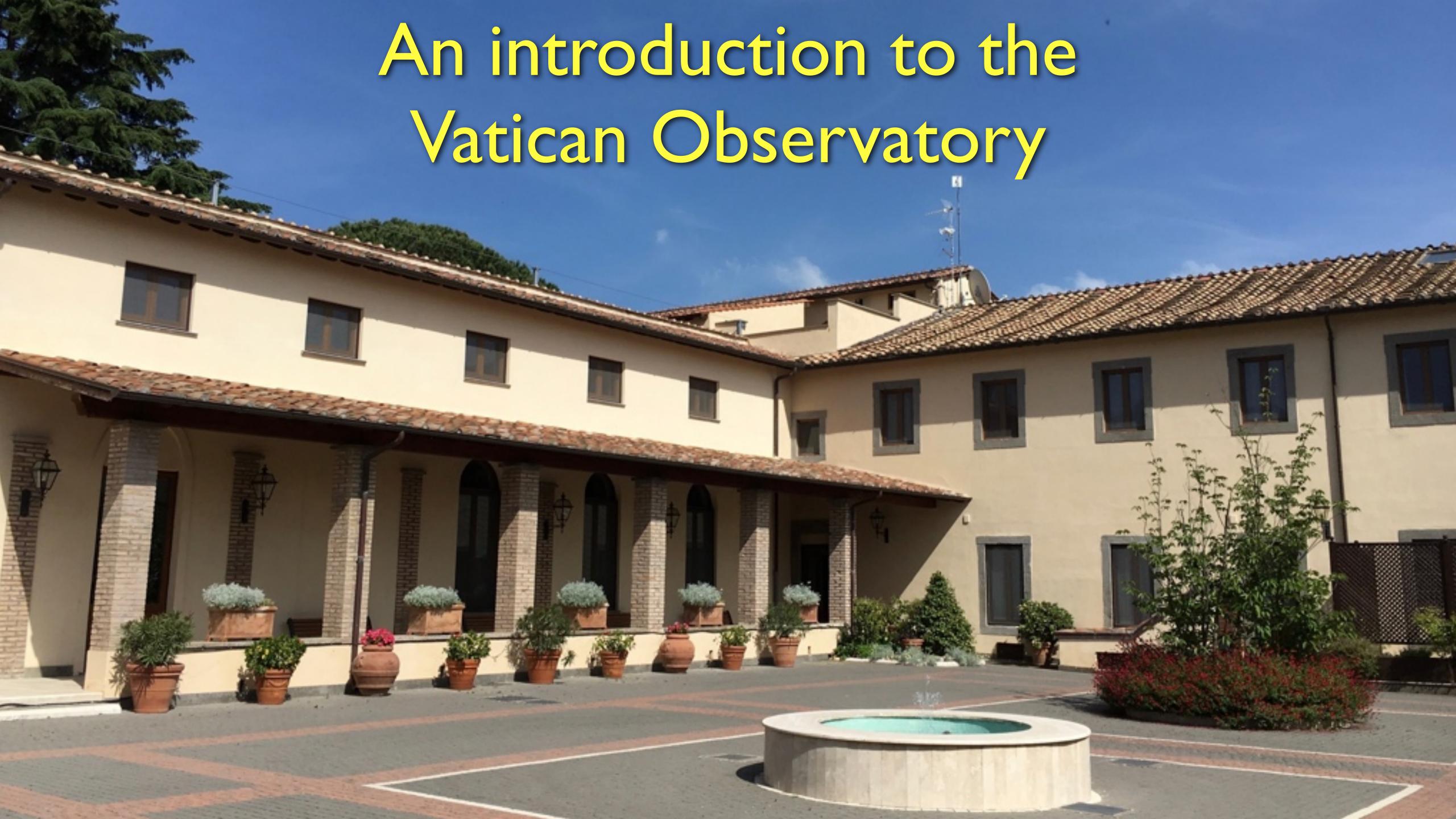
Two Vaticans, under the Pope

Holy See

- Secretary of State
- Nuncios
- Dicasteries
- Theological Commissions
- (appoints bishops, etc.)
- all the religious stuff

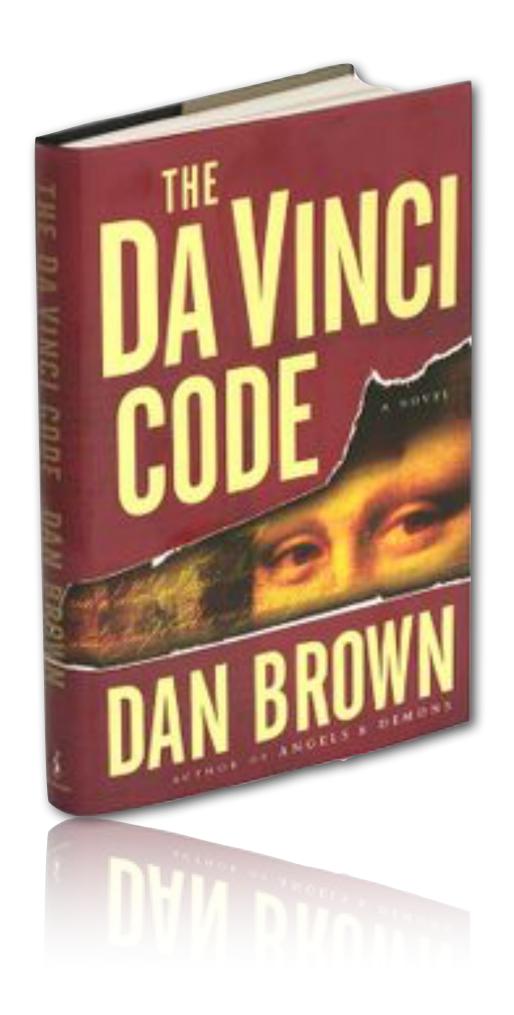
Vatican City State

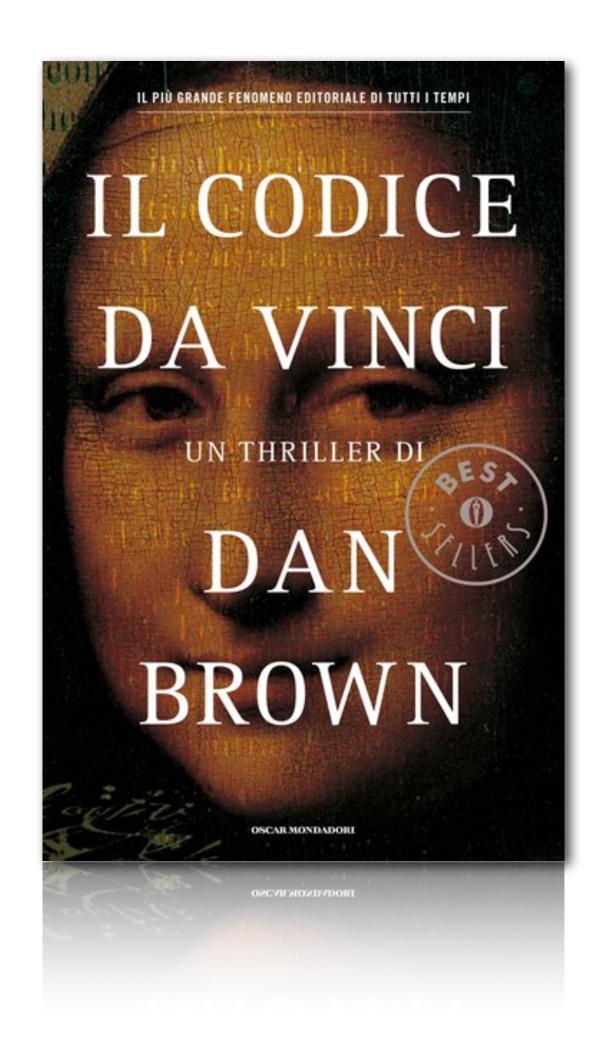
- President
- Secretary General
- Museums
- Post office, coins, etc.
- all the civil stuff
- including the Specola Vaticana











When Aringarosa got out of the car, a young Jesuit priest hurried out and greeted him. "Bishop, welcome. I am Father Mangano. An astronomer here."

Good for you. Aringarosa grumbled his hello and followed his host into the castle's foyer—a wide-open space whose decor was a graceless blend of Renaissance art and astronomy images. Following his escort up the wide traver-



astronomy images. Following his escort up the wide travertine marble staircase, Aringarosa saw signs for conference centers, science lecture halls, and tourist information services. It amazed him to think the Vatican was failing at every



The top floor's corridor was wide, lushly appointed, and led in only one direction—toward a huge set of oak doors with a brass sign.

BIBLIOTECA ASTRONOMICA



BIBLIOTECA ASTRONOMICA

Aringarosa had heard of this place—the Vatican's Astronomy Library—rumored to contain more than twenty-five thousand volumes, including rare works of Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Newton, and Secchi. Allegedly, it was also the place in which the Pope's highest officers held private meetings . . . those meetings they preferred not to hold within the walls of Vatican City.









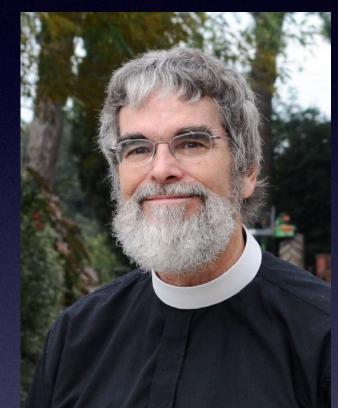


Today: 12 researchers, 7 nations, 4 continents

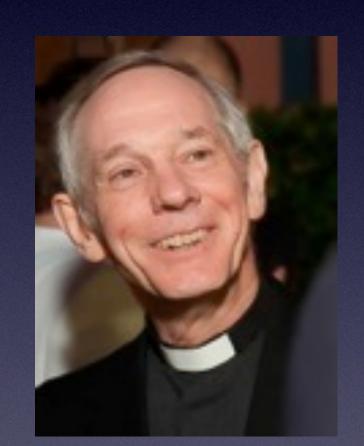
Rich Boyle: US; star cluster photometry; St. Louis and Georgetown







Guy Consolmagno: US; Director; IAU Nomenclature Committee; meteorites and asteroids; MIT and Arizona



Chris Corbally: Britain; IAU Div IV past president; stellar spectroscopy; Bristol and Toronto



Richard D'Souza: India; galaxy evolution and star halos; Heidelberg and Max-Planck-Institut für Astrophysik



Pavel Gabor: Czech Republic; extrasolar planets; Charles (Prague) and Paris

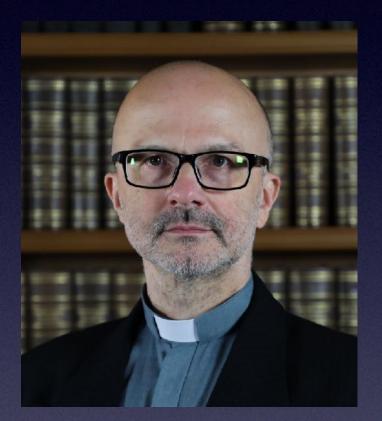


Matteo Galaverni; Italy; theoretical cosmology; University of Bologna and Ferrara/Paris 7



Gabriele Gionti: Italy; quantum gravity and string theory;

Naples Frederic II and Trieste



Robert Janusz; Poland; spectrophotometry and information theory; Jagiellonian University and Uniwersytet Papieski Jana Pawła II

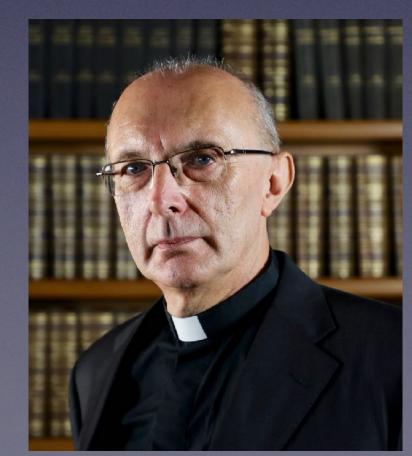


Jean-Baptiste Kikwaya Eluo: Congo; meteors and celestial dynamics; Namur, Paris and Western Ontario



Bob Macke: US; meteorites; scientist, NASA Lucy Mission MIT, Washington University, and Central Florida







Some practical matters...

Getting in and out

- Go in and out through the main gate, not our front door
- You need your badge in order to get past the guard!
- Main Gate is open from 7:30 am (class starts at 8:30 am)
- Main Gate is closed after 7:30 pm
- Do not wander into the garden...





















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Other useful information

- Rest rooms are past the door by the speaker
- Coffee breaks are outdoors (only water in the classroom please ants!)
- If the weather allows, keep the back windows open (fresh air limits the transmission of disease...)
- If you do feel less than 100%, you can Zoom from upstairs

- Other than that the room immediately over this one, please stay downstairs (we live upstairs)
- Feel free to browse in our libraries
- Treat each other with the knowledge that you're going to have to face the Pope on Thursday...
- Enjoy the workshop!



Code of Conduct

[Adopted from the European Astronomical Society and ESO meeting guidelines]

Vatican Observatory workshops are events where researchers are encouraged to have a free discussion, and a free exchange of ideas and scientific results. All professional interactions should be conducted with consideration and respect. This includes, but is not restricted to, interactions with other attendees, and with administrative, technical, or other support staff.

Participants are advised to be mindful and respectful at all times of cultural differences among the participants.

All attendees are expected to behave professionally and treat each other with respect for the duration of the school and in all activities related to it. (Of course, we hope you behave professionally before and after the workshop, as well!) Ideas and results must be respectfully discussed based solely on their scientific merits. Critique ideas, not people.

Appropriate and respectful language should be used by all attendees in their interactions throughout the school in all platforms the conference makes use of, be it video, audio, text and chat form.

Before publishing images, recordings, or video clips from any presentation at the school on any kind of media or platform (scientific publications, on social media, etc.), you must receive permission from the presenter.

Every attendee is expected to make their individual contribution towards a respectful and inclusive climate. Any discriminatory behavior against colleagues on any basis, such as gender, gender identity, race, ethnic background, national origin, religion, political affiliation, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities, or any other reason will not be tolerated.

Attendees who witness or are affected by possible violations of the Code of Conduct should contact the director of the workshop (Gabriele Gionti or Matteo Galaverni) to initiate a complaint, attaching available evidence (e.g., screenshots) if available. The complaint will be examined by the SOC and appropriate action will be taken if the majority concurs that the code has been violated. First infraction will result in a warning, further infractions will be resolved as deemed appropriate by the committee, up to and including expulsion from the school.