

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

January 11, 2002

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**ADLER PLANETARIUM & ASTRONOMY MUSEUM  
PRESENTS BROTHER GUY CONSOLMAGNO OF  
THE VATICAN ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY AT  
TWO SPECIAL LECTURES**

Back by popular demand, Brother Guy Consolmagno of the Vatican Observatory lectures at two very special classes at the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum on Wednesday, February 6 and at a two-session class on Thursdays, February 7 and 14. **“The Vatican and the Sun”** presented Wednesday, February 6 delves into the historical role that the Vatican has played in the development of astronomy and how the Roman Catholic Church and astronomers today react to issues like the Big Bang, the discovery of other planets and the possibility of extraterrestrial intelligence. Offered in two parts, **“New Moon: Radically New Views of a Very Old Planet,”** on Thursdays, February 7 and 14 explores the history of our changing ideas about the Moon, from the classical ideas (and the reasons for them) of how the Moon formed and evolved to what the "lunar revolutionaries" are proposing.

- more -

Consolmagno/ Add 1

Consolmagno returns to the Adler to provide a unique perspective on the relationship of science and religion. He is currently the meteorite curator at the Vatican's Astronomical Observatory where he studies the origins and evolution of meteorites and asteroids and writes about the historical relationship between science and the church.

Consolmagno obtained his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Earth and Planetary Sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his Ph.D. in Planetary Science from the University of Arizona. After receiving his Ph.D., he became a postdoctoral fellow and lecturer at the Harvard College Observatory and later at MIT. In 1983, Consolmagno left MIT to join the U.S. Peace Corp where he served for two years teaching physics and astronomy in Kenya. Upon returning to the United States in 1985, Consolmagno became an assistant professor of physics at Lafayette College, where he taught until his entry into the Jesuit Order in 1989. Since taking his vows as a Jesuit Brother in 1991, Consolmagno has continued his studies in philosophy and theology at Loyola University-Chicago and in physics at the University of Chicago. He is the author of several books including *Brother Astronomer: Adventures of a Vatican Scientist*.

The fee for “The Vatican and the Sun” is \$15 person/\$10 per Adler member. “New Moon: Radically New Views of a Very Old Planet” offered in two sessions is \$25 per person/\$20 per Adler member. For registration or further information call (312) 322-0551.

### **GENERAL MUSEUM INFORMATION**

Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum hours:  
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

On the first Friday of each month the Adler offers special programs with extended hours from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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Consolmagno/Add 2

#### **Regular Admission:**

*Ultimate Universe Adventure* is \$16.00 for adults, \$15.00 for seniors 65 and older and \$14.00 for children 4 – 17.

This package includes admission and the choice of two sky shows.

*Galaxy Passport* is \$13.00 for adults, \$12.00 for seniors 65 and older and \$11.00 for children 4 – 17. This package includes admission and choice of sky shows.

*The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum is the first planetarium in the Western Hemisphere. Its astronomy programs have reached over 35 million people during the past 71 years. Seven state-of-the-art exhibition galleries located in the stunning new Sky Pavilion and the recently renovated landmark 1930s building present modern space exploration along with the history of astronomy. The world's first StarRider™ Theater, the most technologically advanced,*

*audience-interactive planetarium, fuels the imagination of visitors during virtual flights through the cosmos. With a staff of over 200, the Adler pursues its mission to present the human quest to better understand the universe. Adler scientists and historians, who hold joint appointments at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University, are working at the forefront of research in astronomy and its fascinating history. The Adler is leading the way into the new “Space Millennium.”*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (312) 922-STAR  
TTY: (312) 322-0995  
[www.adlerplanetarium.org](http://www.adlerplanetarium.org).**

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