

STARS IN SCRIPTURE



STARS ARE
EVIDENCE
OF GOD'S
GLORY.

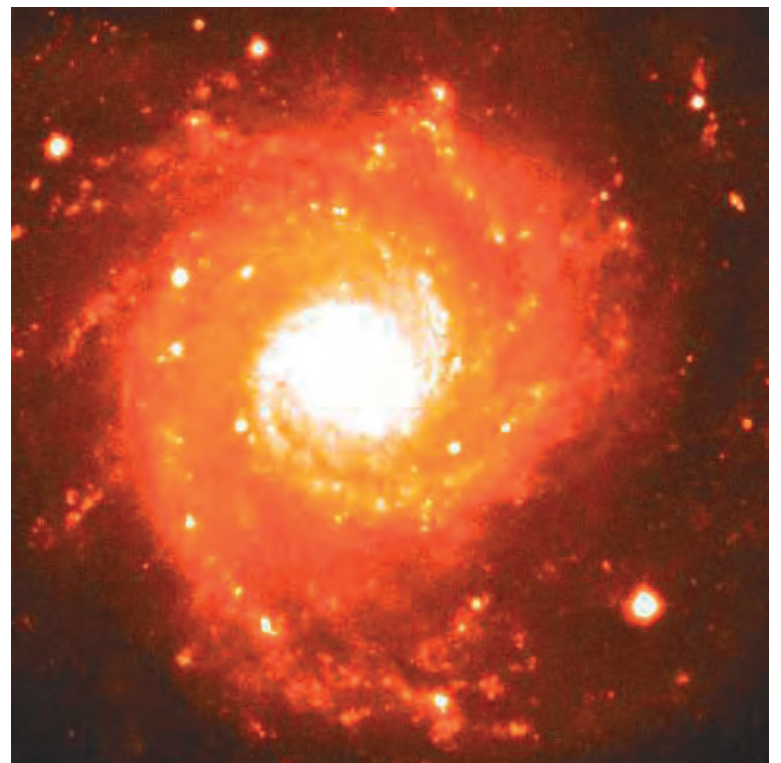
All things come in pairs, one opposite the other, and He has made nothing incomplete. Each supplements the virtues of the other. Who could ever tire of seeing His glory? The pride of the higher realms is the clear vault of the sky, as glorious to behold as the sight of the heavens.

The sun, when it appears, proclaims as it rises what a marvelous instrument it is, the work of the Most High. At noon it parches the land, and who can withstand its burning heat? A man tending a furnace works in burning heat, but three times as hot is the sun scorching the mountains; it breathes out fiery vapors, and its bright rays blind the eyes. Great is the Lord who made it; at His orders it hurries on its course.

It is the moon that marks the changing seasons, governing the times, their everlasting sign. From the moon comes the sign for festal days, a light that wanes when it completes its course. The new moon, as its name suggests, renews itself; how marvelous it is in this change, a beacon to the hosts on high, shining in the vault of the heavens! The glory of the stars is the beauty of heaven, a glittering array in the heights of the Lord. On the orders of the Holy One they stand in their appointed places; they never relax in their watches.

Sirach 42:24–43:10

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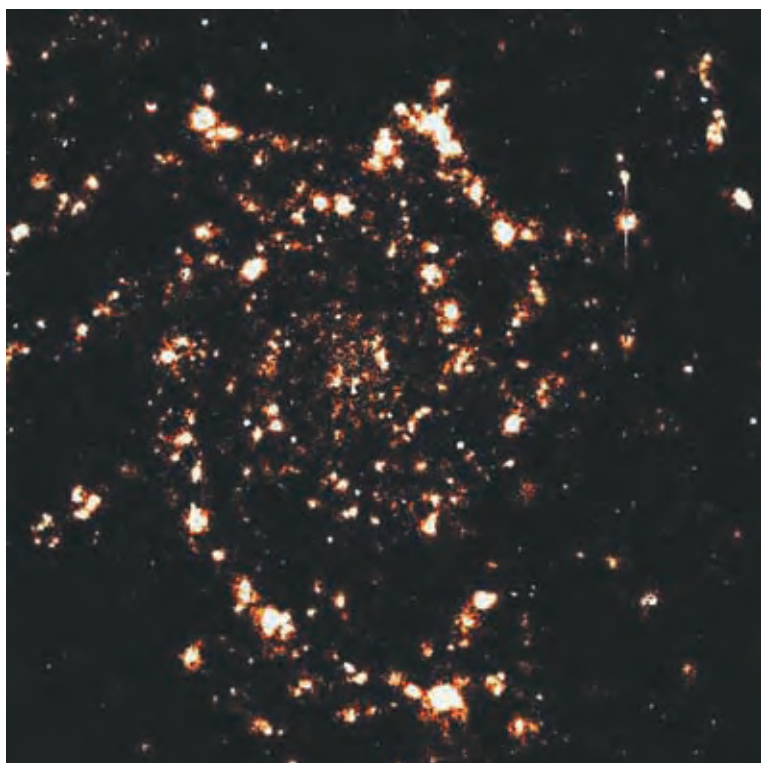
○ LORD, our Sovereign,
 how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
 You have set Your glory above the heavens....

*When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
 the moon and the stars that You have established;*

*what are human beings that You are mindful of them,
 mortals that You care for them?*

*Yet You have made them a little lower than God,
 and crowned them with glory and honor.*

Psalm 8:1, 3-5



***“All things
 come in pairs.”
 Sometimes a pair of images
 can help us understand
 in a way we never could
 with just one image.***

Above: The globular cluster M2 as imaged at the VATT by Melissa Brucker and Bill Romanishin of the University of Oklahoma, Steve Tegler of Northern Arizona University, and Br. Guy Consolmagno, S.J., of the Vatican Observatory. Advanced CCD cameras can capture a remarkable dynamic range of light, from faint to bright; here the same image is reproduced at two different contrasts to show the faint outer stars (left) and the structure in the core (right) of this cluster.

Below: The spiral galaxy NGC 628 in red (left) and H-alpha (right) filters, imaged by Fr. José Funes, S.J. The H-alpha spots shine where new stars are being formed.