

Ten Guidelines for Catholic Speculative Science Fiction

1. The Catholic Church retains all of her doctrines and most, if not all of her disciplines.
2. Alien religion, if shown, is paganism. Aliens are not to be portrayed as having a Divinely inspired religion. See Rule 3
3. Aliens do not have Divine revelation. Instead, humans are the chosen species bringing God to the gentiles. See Rule 2
4. Christ **did not** become (*name alien species*) and die to redeem them. The Second Person of the Blessed Trinity redeemed the entire universe by His death as a man. See 2+3
5. Only a validly ordained **human** priest or bishop (i.e. in *persona Christi*) may administer the sacraments, whatever the species of the recipient. (Baptism in an emergency being the only exception)
6. Acceptable rites of a converted alien culture may remain. However, be advised about a potential *Chinese Rites Controversy*.
7. It is perfectly acceptable to have the supernatural (i.e. angels/demons etc.) at work in the story. However, it must not be ambiguous, and any scientific explanation must be discredited. This also applies to miracles.
8. It is never advisable to have your Catholic protagonist believe in the Big Bang or any of the numerous End-of-the-Universe theories, no matter how scientific they seem. This also applies to Evolution.
9. Any story having a lapsed/cafeteria-Catholic as a protagonist must have him/her becoming Catholic at the end. This also applies to Heretics.
10. Science must not be shown in opposition to the Faith, although scientists may be. However, any attack made against the Faith by an atheist scientist (ex: Galileo, Big Bang) must be carefully refuted by a Catholic character.