Christianity in the Ming
Visual Primary Sources

Document 1

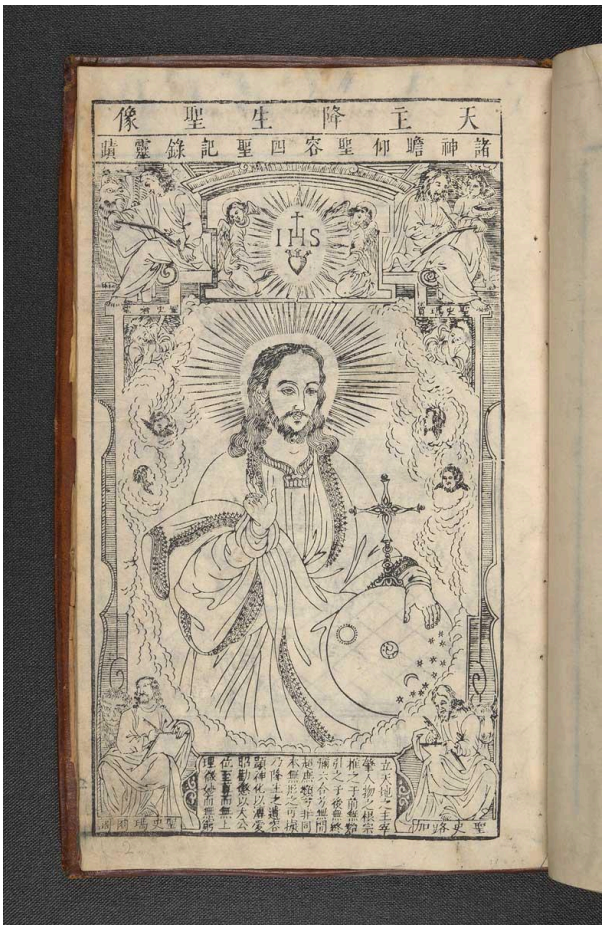


Matteo Ricci, who was the first Catholic missionary to visit China, and Xu Guangqi in the Chinese edition of Euclid's Elements. When Ricci made it to China, he and other Jesuit priests, worked in the Ming royal court.

Xu Guangqi was a high-ranking Chinese astronomer, mathematician, and writer during the Ming dynasty. He converted to Christianity and is one of the "Three Pillars of Chinese Catholicism" according to the Catholic Church.

Document 2

Chinese Woodblocks, 1637





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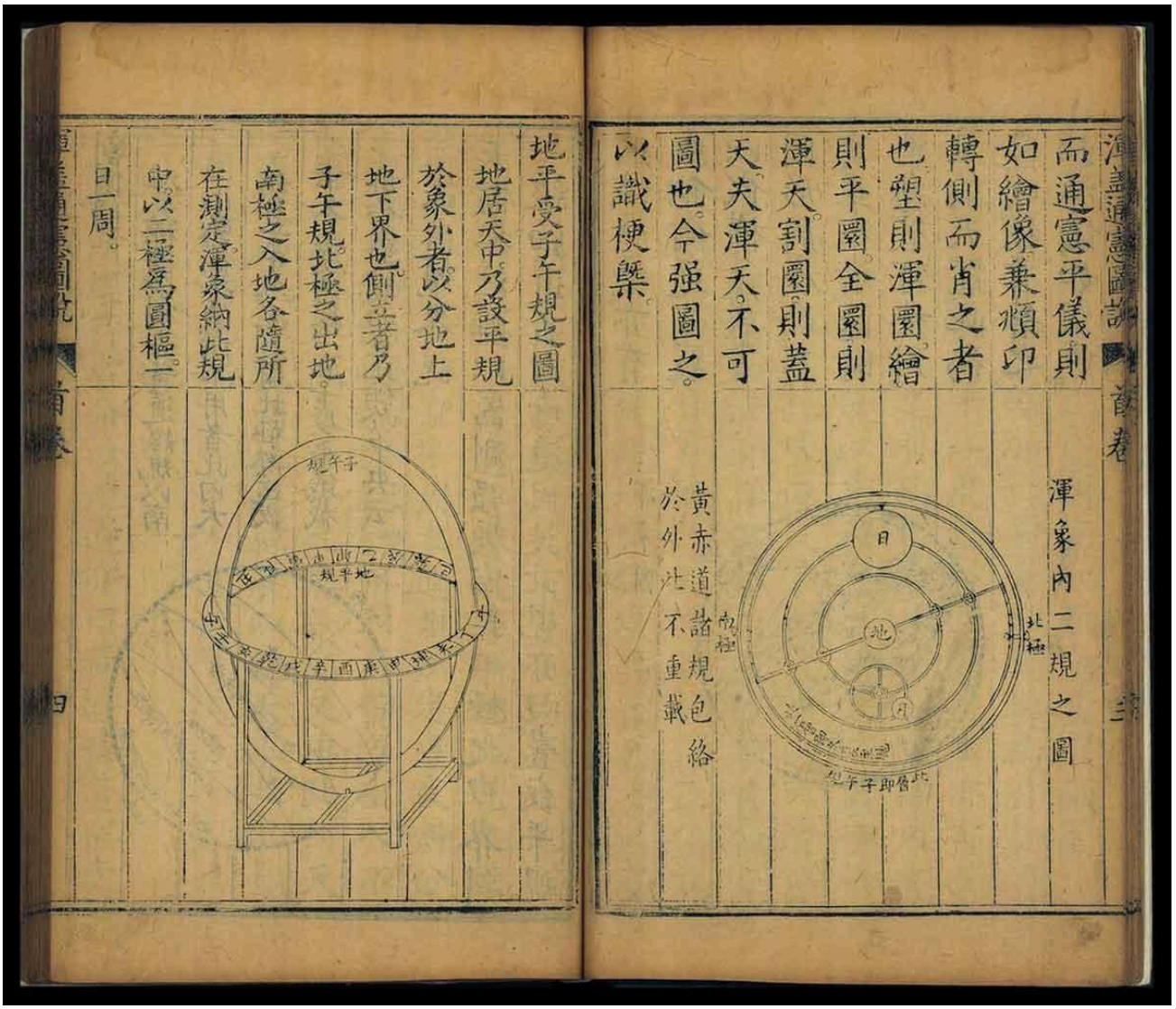
Document 3

Portrait of Jesuit Missionary Johann Adam Schall. Schall was made a mandarin and held an important post in connection with the mathematical school, contributing to astronomical studies and the development of the Chinese calendar. His position enabled him to get permission for the Jesuits to build churches and preach throughout the country.



Document 4

Li Zhizao's translation of a European treatise on the astrolabe (1605-1607). Li held the highest



degree in Chinese civil education. He also wrote his own treatise of Catholicism in explicitly Confucian terms, hoping to make his vision of Chinese Christianity complementary to the ancient way of the sages.