

Catholic priest who  
invented the Pantograph  
and the co-discoverer  
of Sunspots

## Fr. Christoph Scheiner

25 July 1575 – 18 June 1650



- ✓ Scheiner was a German Jesuit priest, physicist and astronomer.
- ✓ In 1610, he worked as a successor to Fr. Johannes Lantz S.J. in Ingolstadt, teaching mathematics (physics and astronomy) and Hebrew. He lectured on sun dials, practical geometry, astronomy, optics, and the telescope.
- ✓ Scheiner is today considered as the co-discoverer of the **Sun spots**, together with Galileo Galilei, Thomas Harriot and Johann Fabricius.
- ✓ In 1603, he also invented the **pantograph**, an instrument designed to reproduce drawings on a different scale.
- ✓ He also provided insights into the **nature of the eye**, he found that the **retina** is the seat of vision and the optic nerve transmits the images from the retina to the brain. He published his findings in 1619, where he detailed the '**anatomy of the eye**', '**refraction of the light ray inside the eye**' and '**retina and the visual angle**'.