Charlemagne and the Rise of Medieval Culture – Unit 7

General Events:

- 711 Muslims invade Spain
- 714-741 Charles Martel, grandfather of Charlemagne, reigns as first ruler of the Frankish kingdom
- 732 Charles Martel defeats the Muslims at the Battle of Poitiers
- 741-768 Reign of Pepin the Short, father of Charlemagne
- 768 Charlemagne ascends the Frankish throne
- 772-778 Charlemagne’s military campaigns against Muslim Emirates
- c. 790 Charlemagne settles his court at Aachen (Aix-la-chapelle)
- 800 Charlemagne crowned Holy Roman emperor at Rome by Pope Leo III
- 814 Death of Charlemagne
- 910 Founding of the monastery at Cluny
- 987-996 Reign of Hugh Capet in France ends Carolingian line of succession
- 11th cent. Pilgrimages become very popular
- 1066 Norman invasion of England by William the Conqueror
- 1096-1099 First Crusade, capture of Jerusalem by Christians
- 1165 Charlemagne canonized at Cathedral of Aachen
- 1167 Sultan Saladin conquers Jerusalem
- 1202-1204 Fourth Crusade; sack of Constantinople by crusaders
- 1270 Eighth Crusade
- 1201 Fall of Acre, the last Christian stronghold in the Holy Land

Literature:

- 735 Death of the Venerable Bede, author of *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* after 780 Carolingian miniscule form of lettering developed
- 781 Charlemagne opens a palace school and imports scholars
- 814 Carolingian monasteries adopt the *Rule* of Saint Benedict of Nursia (480-547?)
- c. 1098 *Song of Roland, chanson de geste*, written down after 300 years of oral tradition (about the Battle of Roncesvalles in 778)
- 12th cent. Development of liturgical drama
- c. 1125 Saint Bernard of Clairvaux denounces extravagances of Romanesque decoration
- 14th – 15th c. Play cycles performed outside the church; *Everyman* (15th cent), morality play

Art:

- 8th-9th cent. Irish *Book of Kells* (Dublin, Trinity College); illuminated manuscripts and carved ivories prevalent
- 800-810 *Gospel Book of Charlemagne*
- c. 820-830 *Utrect Psalter*
- 1120-1132 Sculptures at Abbey Church of la Madeleine, Vezelay
- c. 1165 Reliquary of Charlemagne and candelabra commissioned for Aachen cathedral for canonization of Charlemagne

Architecture:

- c. 795 Palace and chapel of Charlemagne at Aachen
- after 1000 Use of massive walls and piers, rounded arches and minimal windows
- c. 1071-1112 Pilgrimage Church at Santiago de Compostela constructed, Spain
- c1080-1130 Pilgrimage church at Toulouse, France, pilgrimage center
- 1096-1120 Abbey Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay

Music:

- c. 800 Monasteries become centers for encouragement of sacred music; theoretical study of music at Charlemagne’s palace school
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Century</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Use of semi dramatic <em>trope</em> in liturgical music; <em>Quem Queritis</em> trope introduced into Easter Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. 810</td>
<td>Gregorian plain chant (<em>cantus planus</em>) obligatory in Charlemagne’s churches</td>
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<tr>
<td>822</td>
<td>Earliest documented church organ</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-12th</td>
<td>Gregorian chant codified</td>
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