

The Cathedral is a meeting place
and a place for prayer.

As it as welcomed many saints through history, it still brings
together today's Christians to telle them of God's love for
every baptised person and fot all men and women.

Open every day 7.30 to 7.30pm.

Masses

- on Sundays and on Holy Days :

9.30am and 11.00am in the Cardinal's Chapel

- every day : 8am and 7pm in the axis Chapel

- on Saturday : 8am in the axis Chapel

You can pray in the Saint Sacrament Chapel

A priest is aviable in the Reception Room

N° on
the map

*19

*13

*13

*9

*4

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Do not miss the visit of :

The PALAIS DU TAU,

the former palace of the Archbishops, which shelters the original
statues removed from the cathedral, the treasury of the coronations,
and the cathedral tapestries.

The entrance is near the sacristy *15 or in the Palais yard.

The **BASILICA SAINT-REMI** dating from XIth to XVth, shelters the
relics of the great Bishop, our town's patron.

SAINT-JACQUES CHURCH, XIIth, XIIIth, XVIth : contemporary
windows by Sima and Vieira da Silva.

*For further information on the cathedral, guides are on sale
(in several languages) at the counter, on the left of the entrance.*



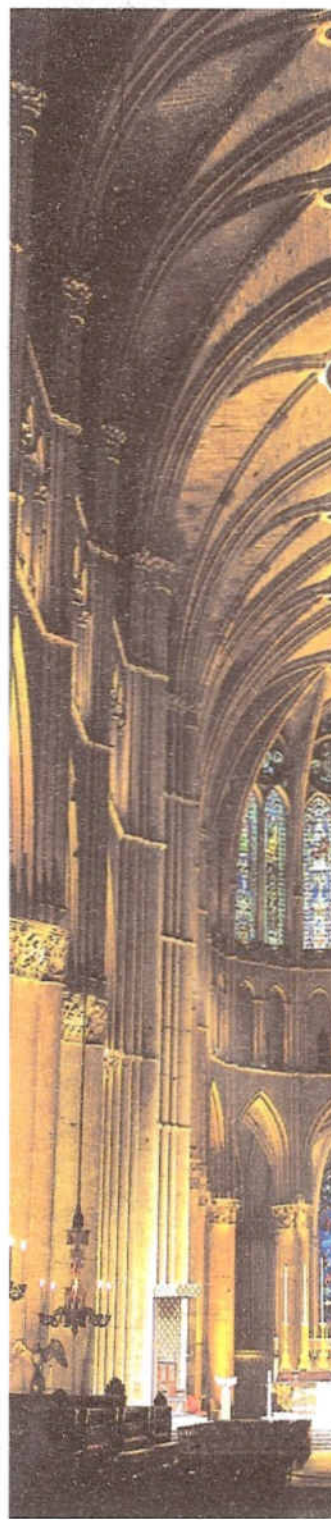
WELCOME TO THE CATHEDRAL OUR LADY OF RHEIMS

One of the most stunning
masterpieces of 13th century
Gothic art

A national shrine,
where King Clovis was baptized
and numerous kings crowned
A symbol of motherland
during World War I,
and of Franco-German
reconciliation later on.

You are now entering
a holy place
which speaks of GOD,
of you, of all of us, of our past
and our future.

Mary welcomes you to this place
where she has been revered
for 1600 years.





Facts and Figures Chronology

401 a first cathedral is consecrated by Bishop St Nicaise to the Virgin Mary, Mother of Christ.

407 St Nicaise receives martyrdom on the threshold of his cathedral.

496 (or 498): at Christmas, Clovis is baptized by St Remi.

852 a new cathedral, built on the same location, is consecrated by Bishop Hincmar.

1210 The city centre is ravaged by fire.

1211 building of this cathedral begins.

1226 King Louis IX (St Louis) is crowned.

1429 King Charles VII is crowned, in the presence of Joan of Arc.

1475 the towers are completed.

1481 the wooden framework burns; restoration of the upper parts of the building follows.

1825 King Charles X is the last King of France to be crowned in Rheims.

1914 during WWI, the cathedral is bombed and burnt.

1937 after 20 years of work, the cathedral is reopened and reconsecrated.

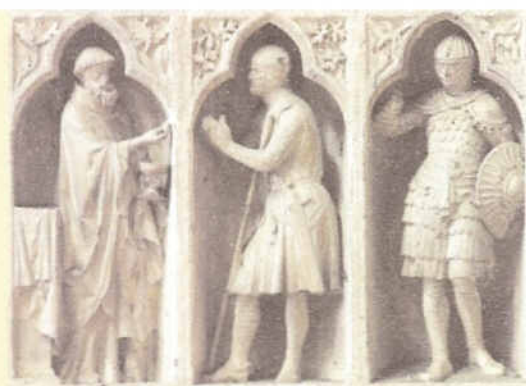
1962 President de Gaulle and Chancellor Adenauer celebrate Franco-German reconciliation, in the presence of Mgr Marty, Archbishop of Rheims.

1996 Pope John-Paul II visits the cathedral on the 1500th anniversary of Clovis's baptism by St Remi.

Measurements

2302 sculpted figures adorn the building, including 211 measuring 3 to 4 meters, 126 medium-sized, 936 smaller ones, 788 animals of all sizes; on the inside, 191 medium-sized statues and 50 animals of various sizes. A frieze of 56 kings crowns the cathedral.

- Inner length	138m
- Height under ceiling	38m
- Width of central nave	12,50m
- Width of Great Rose	12,50m
- Width of north and south roses	9,65m
- Height of towers	81m



The Church of Rheims.

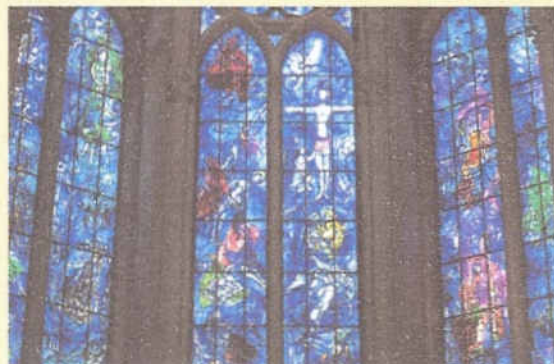
The Cathedral is the Bishop's church.

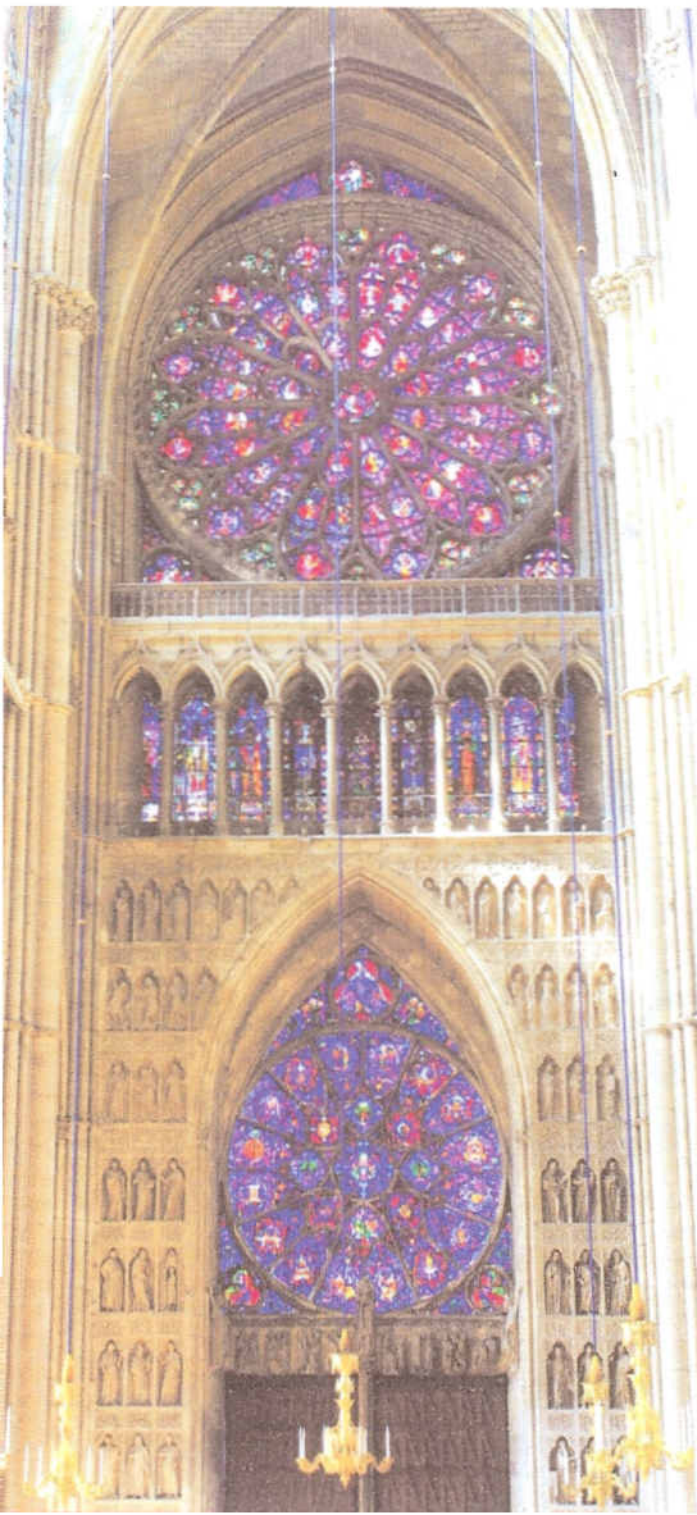
Mgr **JORDAN** is currently the 110th Archbishop of Rheims.

Since the time of the first Bishops of Rheims, Sts **SIXTUS** and **SINICE** (IIIrd century), there have always been Christians in Rheims.

Among them, over the centuries :

- ♦ St **NICAISE**, who built the first cathedral, dedicated to Mary; died a martyr in 407.
- ♦ St **REMI**, 15th Bishop of Rheims, the Apostle of Gaul, Belgium and Rhineland, who baptized King Clovis; died 533.
- ♦ **GERBERT**, who became Pope under the name Sylvester II (Pope during the famous year 1000).
- ♦ St **BRUNO**, scholaster (Head of the Cathedral's school) and founder of the Charterhouse (1035-1101).
- ♦ Blessed Nicolas **ROLAND**, an apostle of education, who founded the Sisters of the Infant Jesus (1643-1678).
- ♦ St John Baptist de **LA SALLE**, founder of the Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools (1651-1719).
- ♦ Numerous French pioneers of "Social Catholicism" (end of XIXth century)





On the ground: plaque commemorating Franco-German reconciliation.

Legend of map.

1 - 13th century Great Rose (restored), smaller rose by Jacques Simon, 1937.

2 - The Smiling Angel.

3 - Supposed location of Clovis's baptism.

4 - Reception room.

5 - Choir clock.

6 - Great Organ; north rose, 13th century (the Creation).

7 - Cathedra (Bishop's throne)

8 - Grand Altar (with smaller altar in front, used for Service).

9 - Chapel of the Virgin, dedicated to prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament

10 - Statue of St John Baptist de la Salle.

11 - North entrance; baptism of Clovis.

12 - Statue of Joan of Arc.

13 - Axis chapel, stained-glass windows by Marc Chagall, 1974.

14 - Retable depicting Death and Resurrection, 16th century.

15 - Access to the Tau Palace.

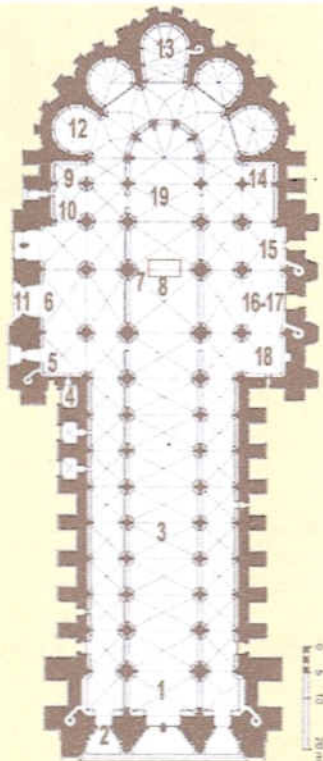
16 - Sacristy; Champagne window by Jacques Simon, 1954.

17 - South rose (the Resurrection) by Jacques Simon, 1937.

18 - Baptismal font; windows by Brigitte Simon-Marcq, 1961.

19 - Cardinal's chapel.

13th century choir windows.



4 roses and 80 windows let the light into the building.

The total surface of glass is 3900m², of which only 1500m² is still in stained glass.





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