The 10th century

The raids end, and the West holds.

Otto the Great stopped the Magyars at the Lech, Vikings settled and became Christian, and Cluny led a reform of the monasteries that kept learning alive.

What rose

910. The abbey of Cluny is founded. Source: Cluny Abbey

955. Otto I defeats the Magyars at the Lechfeld. Source: Battle of Lechfeld

962. Otto I is crowned emperor. Source: Otto the Great

c. 999. Gerbert of Aurillac, who taught Arabic numerals and the abacus, becomes Pope Sylvester II. Source: Pope Sylvester II

What fell or stalled

Manuscript production fell from its 9th-century level. Source: Buringh and van Zanden (2009)

Version 1, November 16, 2026. Drafted with AI from public sources and checked against the source linked for each entry. Not yet reviewed by Nicholas Niehaus. Corrections are welcome and are logged publicly.
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