The 12th century

The renaissance of the twelfth century.

Europe recovered Greek and Arabic learning, founded its first universities, and invented the Gothic church. Manuscript production more than tripled.

What rose

1088–1150. The universities of Bologna and Paris take shape. Source: University of Bologna

1140s. Abbot Suger builds the first Gothic choir at Saint-Denis. Source: Basilica of Saint-Denis

1163. Building begins on Notre-Dame de Paris. Source: Notre-Dame de Paris

12th c.. Translators in Toledo and Sicily bring Aristotle, Euclid and Ptolemy into Latin. Source: Latin translations of the 12th century

What fell or stalled

The Second Crusade failed. Source: Second Crusade

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