Medieval and Renaissance
Religion in
Special Collections

The Lindisfarne Gospels (folio ND3359.L5 B83 2002)
(Cotton Ms Nero D.iv der British Library, London)
Original created circa 715-720 in honor of Saint Cuthbert of
Lindisfarne by his successor Eadfrith. The English translations
were added in the 10th C by Aldred (not his translation, just his
script). Script is insular half uncial, text is from the Vulgate.
Illustrations combine elements from Mediterranean, Celtic, and Germanic styles to create a
Northumbrian style. They include five carpet pages, six incipit pages, four portraits of the Evangelists,
and 16 pages of canon tables with ornamental initials, painted with 45 colors gathered from several
countries. Includes a two-volume commentary in English and a dvd.

Sakramentar von Beauvais (BX2037 .A3 B482 2011) (Ms. Ludwig V 1 at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los
Angeles)
Probably commissioned by Roger, bishop of Beauvais between 998 and 1016, and probably made by
Nivardus of Milan in Fleury, perhaps when Hugh became co-ruler with his father Robert the Pious. The
full sacramentary contained the prayers for leading Mass, seasonal prayers, and occasional prayers
drawn from Gelasian, Gregorian, and local traditions. These Ottonian/early Capetian decorations
resemble classic Carolingian styles. The original was probably disassembled in the early 19th century to
be sold as individual leaves. Includes a commentary in English and German.

Reichenauer Perikopenbuch (folio ND3359 .R45 C38 2009) (Cod. Guelf. 84.5 Aug. 2o der Herzog August
Bibliothek Wolfenbuttel)
Produced circa 979-989 in the Benedictine monastery of Reichenau, and possibly given to the Hildesheim
cathedral after a fire destroyed their books in 1013. May have been commissioned by Emperor Henry II,
which explains the lavish use of purple, gold, and silver. It includes nine miniatures and six ornamented
initials. The ivory relief on the cover portrays the death of Mary, with Peter swinging a censer, Paul
mourning at her feet, and Christ weighing her soul. It contains 108 sermons to follow the ecclesiastical
calendar, and is written in Carolingian minuscule. Includes a commentary in German.

Stuttgart Psalter (BS 1425.L3 1930) "WLB Cod. Bibl. Fol. 23"
This psalter, created between 820 and 835 at the monastery Saint-Germain-des-Pres in Paris, is written
in Carolingian minuscule. It features 162 decorated initials and 316 miniatures. The illustrations
resemble Lombardian paintings and Byzantine figures, and are more intense, ominous, and active than
Byzantine or Italian art of the time. Includes a commentary in German.