C. Gothic churches (13th–16th centuries)

The Gothic style followed the Romanesque. This new style originated in France and spread across Northern Europe. It also appears in Northern Italy and Spain. Reims Cathedral (1211 - 1290) was the coronation church of the Kings of France.
1. What new features have appeared in the floor plan of Reims cathedral?

2. Where was the building 'cut' to draw the section? Draw the section line on the plan.

3. What new structural systems are used? What effect do they have on the proportions of the interior space?

4. How do the arches differ from those in San Michele?

5. Look at the columns. How do they differ from those in Greek and Early Christian buildings?

6. Compare the size of windows in Reims Cathedral with those in San Michele. What effect would the difference have on the interior of the two churches?

7. Study the elevation of Reims cathedral. Compare it with the Romanesque church. What differences do you see? How many decorative features can you identify?

Shaping Space