1. Five windows in the north side aisle, donated between 1507 and 1509 (from left to right): (a) Scenes of the Passion (above), St Lawrence and the virgin (below); (b) The Legend of St Peter and the Tree of Jesse (above), kneeling donor with Sts Peter and Sebastian (below); (c) Adoration of the Shepherds (above), the Cologne Knightly Sts George, Mauritius, Gereon, Albinus (below); (d) Adoration of the Three Magi (above), the Virgin and Sts Peter, Elizabeth, Christopher (below); (e) Coronation of the Virgin (above), St Mary Magdalene and St George (below).

2. Altar of the Poor Clares, about 1350/60. This is the oldest remaining sacramento altar with a permanently fixed tabernacle. This lavish winged altar can be opened in three different transformations. It originates from the former Franciscan convent of St Clare in Cologne and was brought into the cathedral in 1818.

3. Entrance to the Treasury; Above the entrance there are gilded rods, whose number indicates the number of years of the current Archbishop's tenure.

4. Miraculous Picture of the virgin (so-called Schmuckmadonna). Placed in the front wall of the Baroque mausoleum of the Three Magi, which was created after 1667 for the axial chapel (the chapel at the easternmost end of the choir).

Now you reach the ambulatory with its seven chapels. This is the oldest part of the cathedral which was begun in 1248 and completed by 1265. It surrounded the inner choir, at that time yet unfinished. The ambulatory and chapels were therefore already in use for liturgical purposes by 1265.

5. Floor mosaic according to the design of August Essenwein, 1885—1892. The first section shows Archbishop Hildebrand († 816) who holds a model of the "older" cathedral (the structure previous to 1248).

6. Chapel of the Cross: Here is the Gero-Crucifix which was donated by Archbishop Gero († 976). It is the oldest remaining monumental crucifix of the Western World. Represented here is not the suffering or triumphant Christ, rather the lifeless Christ who through his death became the savior of humankind. According to a legendary report of Thietmar von Merseburg, Archbishop Gero had stopped a developing crack in the wood head by setting a host in it, through which the cross later worked miracles and thereby became part of the Cathedral relics. In 1863 the corresponding Crucifix Altar was donated by Henrik von Merling.


10. Chapel of the Three Magi (Axial Chapel): On the occasion of the choir consecration in 1322, the Shrine of the Three Magi was placed here. From this time on the ambulatory was opened for the faithful and the pilgrims. Before this time, however, it is assumed that the chapel was reserved for the cathedral and the clergy of the city. In the center is the Bible Window, the oldest stained glass of the cathedral which is dated to about 1265. Here are Typological (theologically corresponding) scenes from the Old and New Testaments. To the left is the Three Magi window while to the right is the Peter and Maternus window, both dated to around 1330.

11. Funerary monument of Archbishop Dietrich von Moers († 1463), attributed to the chief cathedral architect Konrad Kuen.

12. Chapel of St Agnes: Funerary monument of St Irmingardin von Sückeln († 1865), dated to about 1270.


14. Chapel of St Stephen: Funerary monument of Archbishop Gero († 976), dated to about 1270. Here also is the so-called Newer Biblical Window (around 1280) from the former Dominican church in Cologne. Wall epitaph of Archbishop Adolphe von Schauenburg († 1556). (Counterpart to No.7)


16. Chapel of the Virgin: (Marienkapelle): Altarpiece of the patrons saint of Cologne painted by Stefan Lochner around 1442. Previously located in the chapel of the city hall. Before this altar originally stood here the:

17. Milan Madonna, dated to about 1290 with some restoration in 1585. This Madonna replaced a previous miraculous Madonna which Rainold von Dassel had brought from Milan to Cologne in 1144. Because the current statue was considered to work miracles, it belongs to one of the most important relics of the cathedral.

The Inner Choir: the liturgical center of the cathedral, was reserved in the Middle Ages for the Archbishop and the Cathedral Chapter.

18. High altar, about 1310. At this altar, one of the largest known from the Middle Ages, the Cologne archbishop had the privilege to celebrate the Mass facing the people.

19. Shrine of the Three Magi, about 1190—1225. The pictorial program is not dedicated to the Three Magi, rather summarizes the entire history of salvation from the beginning of the Old Testament to the return of the Christ at the end of time. There are prophets and kings of the Old Testament depicted on the lower part of the longer sides, while on the upper parts are the apostles as corresponding representatives from the New Testament. The Adoration of the Three Magi, the Baptism of Christ in the Jordan, the Return of Christ as Judge of the World, which where the three ways in which Christ appeared (Epiphany). On the back side in the lower section, the Flagellation and Crucifixion of Christ are represented while above one sees the Coronation of Sts Felix and Nabor whose bones are housed in the shrine.

20. Choir stall, about 1308—1311. With 104 seats this is the largest choir stall in Germany.

21. Wall-painting on the choir screen, about 1340.

22. Choir figures located on the pillars, dated to about 1290 (with original painted patterns restored in 1880). Here Christ is represented with the Virgin and the 12 Apostles.

23. Clerestory windows of the Kings, about 1310: The 24 Kings of Juda and the 24 Elders of the Apocalypse. In the axial window is the adoration of the Three Magi who are paying homage to Mary and the divine Child.

24. St Christopher, about 1470.

25. Altar of Agiophas, a work from Antwerp which is dated to about 1520 and comes from the former collegiate church of St Mary of the Steps (Sancta Maria ad Gradus).

26. The Bavarian Windows, donated in 1842 by King Ludwig I of Bavaria and put in place in 1848. From left to right: (a) Sermon of John the Baptist (above); Charlemagne, Friedrich Barbarossa, Helen, Constantin (below); (b) Adoration of the Shepherds and the Kings (above), the prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel (below); (c) Descent from the Cross (above), the four Evangelists (below); (d) Descent of the Holy Spirit (above), the four Early Fathers (below); (e) Stoning of St Stephen (above), various saints (below).