

# UNIT 5 Europe in the Middle Ages

## 418 to 1580

400

600

800

418 Visigoths start a kingdom in Spain.

432 St. Patrick introduces Christianity to Ireland.

789 Vikings' first raid strikes Portland, England.

800 Charlemagne is crowned "Emperor of the West."

## Early Kingdoms of Medieval Europe

During the **Middle Ages** or **medieval era**, many Europeans were poor, uneducated, and violent.

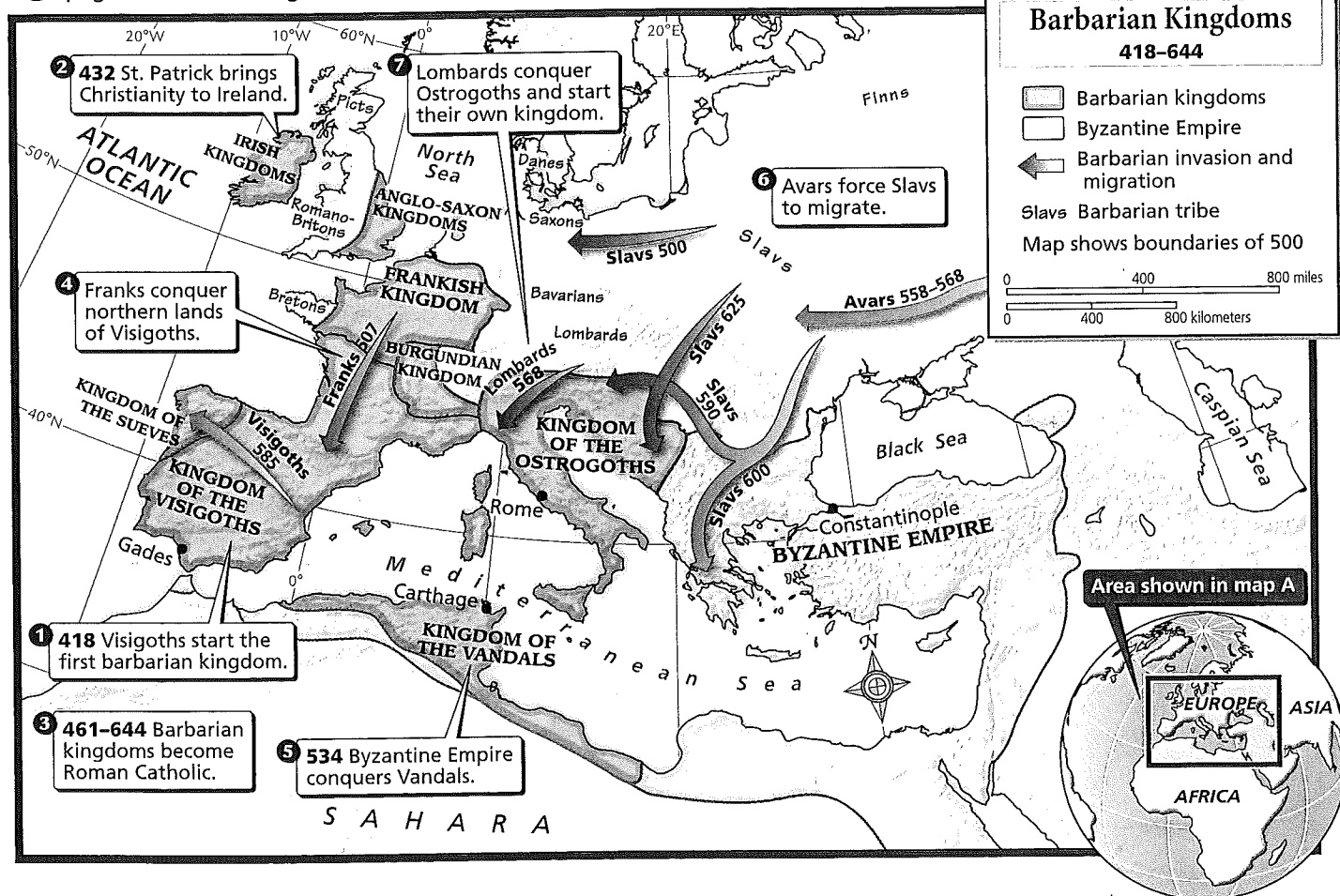
- Early in the Middle Ages, barbarian tribes settled in Western Europe and established their own kingdoms.
- Barbarian kings, wanting to be as civilized as the Romans, became Roman Catholic.
- One Frankish king, Charlemagne, conquered much of Western Europe.

### Barbarians in Our Language

barbarian—a <i>brutal or uncultured person</i>	From <b>bar bar</b> , an imitation of how barbarians talked.
frank— <i>straightforward</i>	From the Franks, who thought violence was more direct than laws or diplomacy.
slave— <i>person held as property of another</i>	From the Slavs, a tribe that lost many people to slavery in the Roman Empire.
vandalism— <i>deliberate destruction of property</i>	From the Vandals, the tribe that looted Rome in 455.

**B** The table above shows some modern-day words, definitions, and histories.

**A** Compare the barbarian invasions on page 41 with the kingdoms on this map.



1066 Normans take control of England.

1095 First Crusade is called by Pope Urban II.

1347 Plague-infected rats arrive in Sicily.

1498 Vasco da Gama reaches the Indies.

1519-1522 Magellan's crew circles the earth.

1000

1200

1400

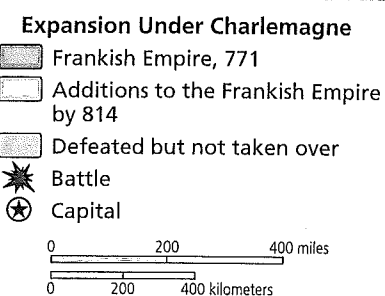
1600

936 Otto I creates what will be the Holy Roman Empire.

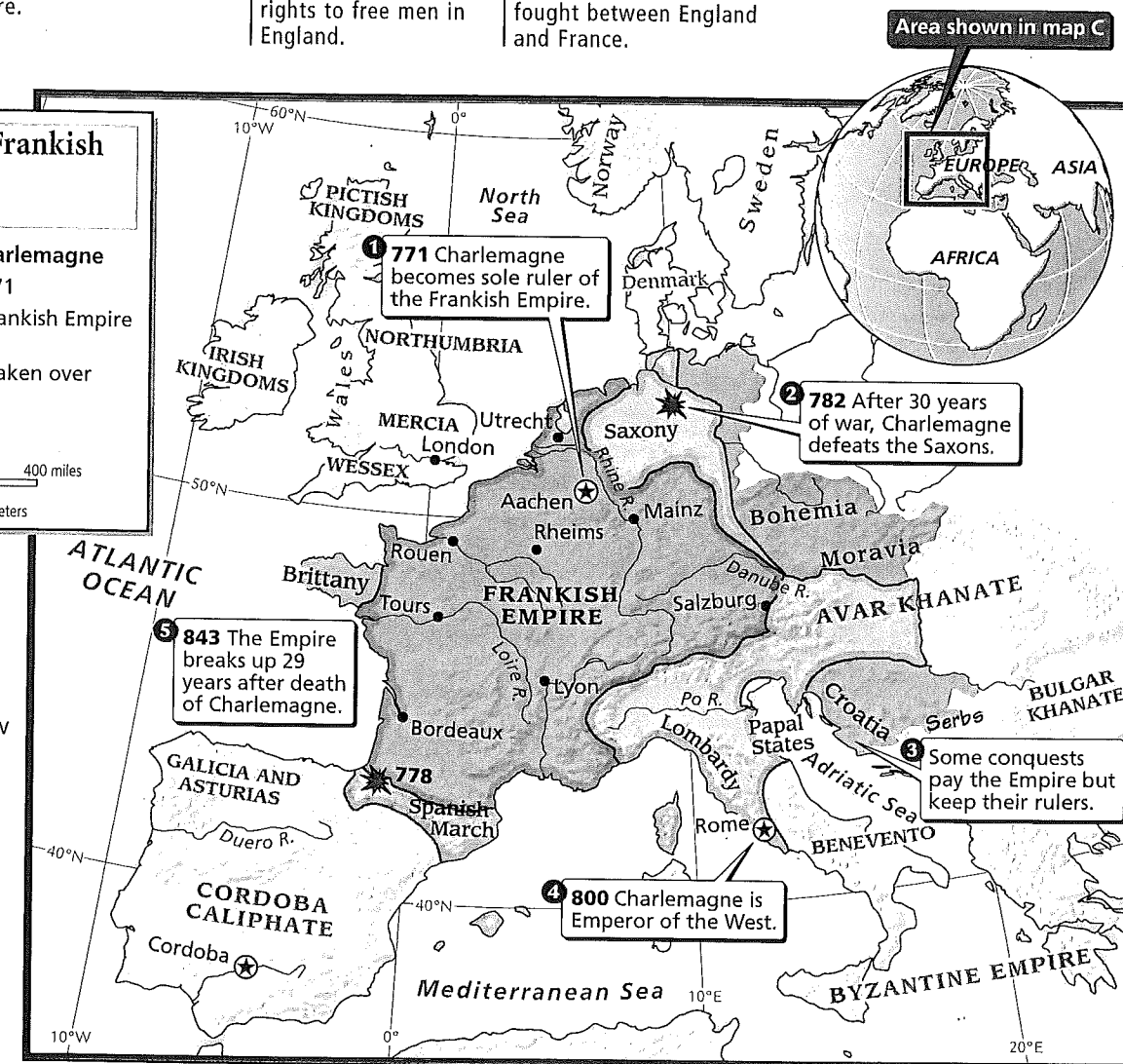
1215 Magna Carta gives rights to free men in England.

1337-1453 Hundred Years' War fought between England and France.

### Charlemagne's Frankish Empire 771-814



**C** Charlemagne's empire extended beyond what is now France into lands that are now Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands. His empire spread Christianity into new areas.



**D** The pope (center) crowned Charlemagne "Emperor of the West." Western Europeans hoped Charlemagne's rule would end centuries of chaos.

### Who is the pope?

The pope is the Roman Catholic bishop of Rome and is the leader of the entire church. In the Middle Ages, the Catholic Church was very powerful in Western Europe. Today the pope leads over a billion Catholics worldwide.