

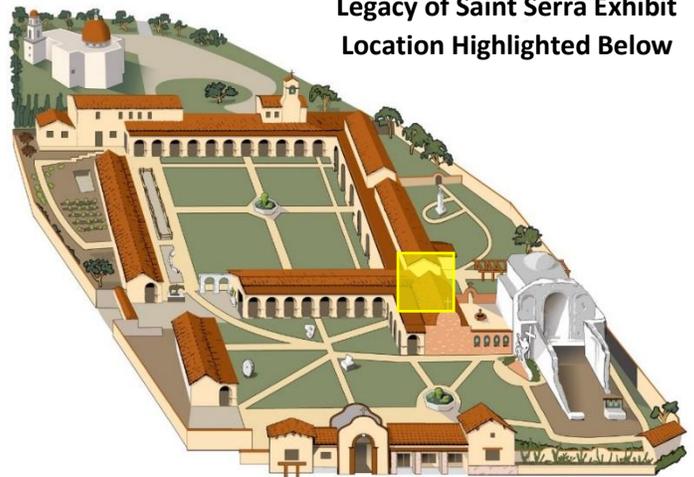
Mission San Juan Capistrano *Teacher's Guide*



Legacy of Saint Serra Exhibit

Dear Teachers,

Mission San Juan Capistrano's The Legacy of Saint Serra Exhibit meets California State Curriculum Standards for fourth grade Social Science as well as the Common Core State Standards in informational text reading. To enhance the student learning experience, the education and museum staff have incorporated interpretive panels, and artifacts to share the history, life, and legacy of Saint Junípero Serra. This guide provides the topics covered in each room, to assist teachers coming on field trips to the Mission, or to provide information for extracurricular activities for students.



Legacy of Saint Serra Exhibit
Location Highlighted Below

Educational Standards:

Common Core State Standards

(CCSS) English Language Arts Standards—Reading Informational Texts

Key Ideas and Details

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.3 Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

Craft and Structure

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.5 Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.



Legacy of Saint Serra Exhibit, 2016

California State Standards 4th Grade Social Studies

4.2 Students describe the social, political, cultural, and economic life and interactions among people of California from the pre-Columbian societies to the Spanish mission and Mexican rancho periods.

4.2.3 Describe the Spanish exploration and colonization of California, including the relationships among soldiers, missionaries, and Indians (e.g., Juan Crespi, Junípero Serra, Gaspar de Portola).

4.2.4 Describe the mapping of, geographic basis of, and economic factors in the placement and function of the Spanish missions; and understand how the mission system expanded the influence of Spain and Catholicism throughout New Spain and Latin America.

Saint Junípero Serra

Saint Junípero Serra (1713 - 1784) was founder of the first nine of the 21 California missions including Mission San Juan Capistrano in 1776. A man of uncompromised optimism and zeal, Saint Serra played a significant role in establishing the mission system and laying a foundation for what would become the state of California.



Illustration of Father Serra, 1927

Exhibit Content and Theme

The Legacy of Saint Serra Exhibit focuses on the life of Junípero Serra and his unique role in establishing the California missions. The exhibit includes information about Serra's recent canonization by Pope Francis on September 23, 2015.

The exhibit also explores Mission San Juan Capistrano's unique religious significance and connection to Saint Serra. The Mission is home to historic Serra Chapel (1782), the oldest church in the state of California, and the only remaining California mission church in which Saint Junípero Serra celebrated Mass. Mission San Juan Capistrano proudly celebrates Serra Chapel's continued legacy as an active house of worship for over 200 years. Mass services and the Eucharist are still celebrated daily.

As students explore the exhibit they will be able to view unique artifacts connected to Father Serra, and his lasting impact as California's founding father.



Reproduction of Father Serra's Crucifix

Artifacts on Display

- Serra Statue by Juan de Avalos (1986)
- Our Lady of Refuge painting (18th century)
- Mission's Original Silver Baptismal Shell (18th century)
- Reproduction Crucifix Worn by Serra (reproduction of his 18th century cross)
- Original US Capitol Building Statuary Hall Unveiling Of Serra Statue Commemorative Book (1931)
- Bust of Junípero Serra by Rene Case (1978)
- Original Confirmation Page written and Signed by Father Serra (1783)



Exhibit Case Featuring Serra Artifacts, 2016