



Conservation Work Begins on Mission's Historic Processional Cross and Candlesticks

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, Calif., January 13, 2009 – Conservation work has begun on a processional silver cross and two candlesticks used in religious services at historic Mission San Juan Capistrano. The items date to the late 1700s. The conservation treatment on these significant items will be completed in mid-February and they will be returned to the Serra Chapel at that time. Griswold Conservation Associates, the company performing the work, will clean and polish the items, and repair the scratches, dents, tears and bent components.

“Even though we are technically finished on the Conservation of the Serra Chapel Project, there are a few remaining items of artwork and historic significance that will be able to be repaired due to us completing the larger Chapel rehabilitation on time and under budget. These beautiful items are part of Mission San Juan Capistrano’s rich tradition,” remarked Mechelle Lawrence-Adams, the Mission’s Executive Director. “This conservation work will help restore them to their original splendor, to be better enjoyed by Mission visitors, students and worshippers alike.”

Conservation work is funded by the generosity of benefactors. One way to support Mission conservation, Lawrence-Adams noted, is by becoming a member of the Mission Preservation Society. Individual memberships start at \$30 per year, and offer many benefits, including free admission. For information, visit www.missionsjc.com or contact Mary Hill at (949) 234-1300 or mhill@missionsjc.com.

Mission San Juan Capistrano is open 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. The Mission operations are funded by gate admissions – preservation work is funded by grants and

fundraising efforts. To reach the Mission, take I-5 to the Ortega Highway exit to San Juan Capistrano. Admission: \$9 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 children ages 3-11, and under 3 free. Price includes self-guided, digital audio tour for adults and seniors. Information: (949) 234-1300. Mission address: 26801 Ortega Hwy., San Juan Capistrano. Website: www.missionsjc.com.

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