



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Patricia Margosian
JUVE Creative, Inc.
(714)841-9600
patricia@juvecreative.com

El Viaje de Portolá Riders Present Mission San Juan Capistrano with \$10,000

San Juan Capistrano, CA – April 4, 2009 – Mission San Juan Capistrano celebrated the 46th El Viaje de Portolá Annual Spring Ride and Empty Saddles Ceremony on Friday, April 3, 2009.

El Viaje de Portolá Riders, a generous group of 250 members, donated \$10,000 to the Mission of San Juan Capistrano. Wyatt Hart, El Presidente of the El Viaje de Portolá Riders, presented the check to Reverend Monsignor Arthur A. Holquin. Over the years, El Viaje de Portolá Riders have continuously supported the Mission with donations of \$175,000.

Beginning at 8 a.m. the Portolá Riders walked to the Old Mission's Serra Chapel for the annual "Gibby's Mass." That was followed by the "Empty Saddles Ceremony," which was held in the Mission's Plaza de Portolá where Riders gather to honor those members who have passed away.

For a detailed listing of events, visit www.missionsjc.com
or call events hotline at (949) 234-1315.

About Mission San Juan Capistrano:

Located in Orange County, Calif., Mission San Juan Capistrano is owned by the Diocese of Orange. Founded November 1, 1776 by Padre Junipero Serra, the Mission was the seventh mission in the chain of the twenty-one California missions, which were established by Spain. Known as the “Jewel of the Missions,” it provides an inspirational learning experience about the past each year to over 53,000 fourth grade students as part of their California history studies. A place of inspiration, education, and preservation, the Mission is Orange County’s only mission and is supported by the Mission Preservation Foundation, which is comprised of business and community leaders. For more information please visit www.missionsjc.com.

About El Viaje de Portolá:

El Viaje de Portolá is an informal organization that was founded in 1963 by Tom Forster, Fulton Shaw, Bud Curtis, Ken Oliphant, Bill Riffle, Bill Shattuck, Charley Wheeler, Dudley Wright, and Bill Votaw. By invitation only, today The Portolás have over 250 members with a goal of preserving western and early California traditions. The Portolás make an annual three day spring ride that begins at the Mission of San Juan Capistrano.

#####