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MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO DEBUTS ITALIAN VERSION OF AUDIO TOUR

San Juan Capistrano, CA—February 16, 2010—Mission San Juan Capistrano debuts Italian version of the award winning self-guided “Voices of the Mission” audio tour Friday, March 19th, 2010.

Directly after the official press conference for Saint Joseph’s Day, Return of the Swallows, the Mission will be conducting a ribbon cutting ceremony for the sixth version of the audio tour with Italian Dignitaries, City Officials, and Mission supporters in the ruins of the Great Stone Church.

“With Capestrano, Italy, being the sister city of San Juan Capistrano, CA and the Mission, we are proud to be able to offer an Italian version of the audio,” said Mechelle Lawrence-Adams, Executive Director of the Mission. “It is our hope that the Mission be better understood by guests and inspire them to be the voice of the Mission’s future.”

The Mission currently offers the self-guided digital “Voices of the Mission” audio tour daily for visitors. The tour is available in English, Spanish, French, German, Vietnamese, and (beginning March 19th) Italian.

The hand-held audio player or wand given to each visitor offers a 45-minute tour featuring music, history and storytelling about California history and uncovers the birthplace of Orange County, CA-Mission San Juan Capistrano. The audio tour grants the listener the unique opportunity to experience history first hand, learn new things about the Mission never before heard, and see the Jewel of the Missions up close and personal.

Lawrence Adams: “We also believe our multi-lingual program is a perfect program for students of foreign languages. The latest language translation further illustrates and responds to the Mission’s appeal to people from all over the world.”

About Mission San Juan Capistrano:

Known as the “Jewel of the Missions,” Mission San Juan Capistrano is a historic landmark and museum that boasts of quality permanent exhibits featuring original artifacts as well as traveling and temporary exhibits on a wide variety of topics.

The site itself serves as a living outdoor museum with original buildings constructed by Native Americans in the 18th century including the Serra Chapel, Great Stone Church, and the original padres’ quarters of the South Wing.

The Mission was founded on November 1, 1776 by Padre Junipero Serra as the seventh in the chain of the twenty-one California missions established by Spain, and is Orange County’s only mission. Every year, over 50,000 students visit the Mission and engage in an inspirational learning experience via the Mission Matters programming, as part of their State required California history studies.

Mission San Juan Capistrano is owned by the Diocese of Orange and is supported by the Mission Preservation Foundation, which is comprised of business and community leaders committed to ensuring the long term preservation and viability of Orange County’s only Mission. The Mission receives no funding from either the Church or the State of California and charges admission funds as a means of providing public access.

Mission San Juan Capistrano is located at 26801 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. Open Daily 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Good Friday afternoon. Admission is \$9 adults; \$8 seniors (60 years or over); \$5 children (ages 4 to 11); and children ages 3 and under are admitted free. Free audio guide with senior and adult admission. For more information, call (949) 234-1300 or visit www.missionsjc.com.

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