



CALIFORNIA MISSIONS
A GS NORCAL COUNCIL'S OWN PATCH PROGRAM

BROWNIES & JUNIORS

LEARN ABOUT THE IMPORTANT ROLE
OF MISSIONS IN CALIFORNIA'S HISTORY
USING FOOD, CRAFTS
AND MUSIC!



PURPOSE

The California Mission Patch Program provides the opportunity for girls to learn more about the role of missions in California's history. The program uses food, crafts, and music to illustrate key aspects of missionary life.

GOAL

Upon completion of the California Mission patch program, each girl will be able to do the following:

- ❖ Name all of the missions and explain the order in which they were built.
- ❖ Describe the significance of the missions in the history of California.
- ❖ Demonstrate an activity performed by a mission Native American.

BACKGROUND

In 1769, King Charles III of Spain ordered a Spanish missionary named Fray Junipero Serra to build settlements along the coast of California. The King wanted the settlements built because they would help keep the land as Spanish territory. He also thought missions would be an effective way to convert the Native Americans to Christianity.

It took fifty-four years for the missions to be built. Unfortunately, Father Junipero Serra died before all twenty-one were completed. The Mission Padres served as the leadership for the towns that arose surrounding the missions. The missions were successful and powerful for many years.

In 1834, Mexico passed a secularization law that prohibited the government from owning or supporting religious institutions. The missions were given to the Native Americans. Most Native Americans were unable to or resistant to the idea of running the missions so the buildings were sold to individuals.

In the September 1850, California became part of the United States. The U.S. government gave the missions to the Catholic Church. Since then, many missions have been restored and rebuilt. The missions now serve as a reminder of California's historic past.

ORDER PATCHES ONLINE AT WWW.GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON PATCH PROGRAMS CONTACT PATCHES@GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG

CALIFORNIA MISSION PATCH REQUIREMENTS FOR BROWNIES AND JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS

Brownie Requirements - Complete 6 of the following activities including the ones that are starred (✱)

Junior Requirements- Complete 8 of the following activities including the ones that are starred (✱)

✱ 1. Visit a local mission of your choice. Collect brochures, postcards, and pictures of the mission. Make a display board and present your findings to the group. What is a “landmark cross”? Where was it located? Be sure to mention the history of the mission as well as the modern uses.

2. Learn how the Native Americans who lived at the missions dressed in 1820. Create a costume and write a short dialog explaining the daily events in the missionary life of a Native American. Present it to your troop.

O R

Identify what foods the Native Americans living at the missions in 1820 ate. Cook a traditional mission meal for your family or troop.

3. Learn and demonstrate three job skills or crafts taught to the Native Americans by the Padres and soldiers. Select from the following:

- ❖ Make a candle
- ❖ Make soap from fat and lye
- ❖ Card and spin cotton or wool
- ❖ Weave a small item like a place mat, purse, or table runner
- ❖ Make a pottery item like a small bowl, floor tile, roof tile, or plate.
- ❖ Carve a spoon from wood.
- ❖ Make a few miniature adobe bricks and construct a section of a mission wall.

4. Learn about the importance of the bells and music at the missions. Teach your troop two songs that were sung at the missions.

5. Construct a model or draw an aerial plan of a mission.

6. Call the mission and find out what you can do to help. Perhaps you can make a craft item to be displayed.

✱ 7. Find out who started the California Missions. What was his nationality? How did he start the missions? Why did he start a mission trail? How is this trail used today?

✱ 8. Find out how many missions were built and in what order? Make a map showing the location and name of each mission.

9. Make a toy that may have been played with by a child your age during the mission days. Show others how to use it.

10. Add your own mission activity here.

ORDER PATCHES ONLINE AT WWW.GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON PATCH PROGRAMS CONTACT PATCHES@GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG

MISSIONS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

◆ MISSION SAN CARLOS BORROMELO DE CARMELO 3080 Rio Road, write to P.O. Box 2235 Carmel, CA 93923

Mission San Carlos was founded on June 3, 1770 at the Presidio of Monterey. It was named after Saint Charles Borromeo, the Archbishop of Milan.

The first four years of mission life were very poor. There were not enough crops and animals for the soldiers and missionaries to be adequately sustained. Don Juan Bautista brought supplies and food by land to help individuals living at or around the mission.

Father Junipero Serra lived in the mission for many years. On August 28, 1784 Fr. Serra died at Mission San Carlos and was buried in the rustic adobe church. Following his death, a stone church was erected to replace the original adobe church. Fr. Serra is still buried within the church.

In 1834, the church was given to the Native Americans. Little care was given to the mission. In 1851, the roof of the Church collapsed. It was not replaced until 1884.

◆ MISSION SAN FRANCISCO SOLANO Sonoma State Historic Park, 20 E. Spain St., Sonoma, CA 93570

This mission was the last mission to be built. Father Altimira insisted a new mission be built and he conducted the founding ceremony before being given approval by the Father/Presidente of the missions. Father Altimira rallied help from the governor of California. Construction began on July 4, 1823.

After the mission was built, some Native Americans were unhappy. They set fire to some of the buildings and supplies. These actions caused Altimira to leave the mission. Father Buenaventura took his place.

When secularization occurred in 1834, General Vallejo took control of the mission property. Vallejo and his relatives took tiles and wood from the mission to build their houses. By 1839, rain had eroded the adobe bricks, leaving the mission in ruins. For years, the mission was empty. At one time, a man ran a liquor store outside the front entrance and stored his liquor in the chapel. Currently, Mission San Francisco Solano is a state park.

◆ MISSION SANTA CLARA DE ASIS Santa Clara University, 500 El Camino Real, write to: P.O. Box 3217, Santa Clara, CA 95053

Mission Santa Clara de Asis was named after Saint Clara of Assisi, a nun in the 1100s. It is one of three California missions named after women. The mission was founded on January 12, 1777. Earthquakes weakened the original structure over the years and in 1822, a new church was built.

In 1833, Mexican priests were sent to replace Spanish priests. The Mexican government did not support the missions as the Spanish had and soon after the missions fell into neglect. In 1854, Father John Nobili founded a college at Mission Santa Clara. Today, Santa Clara University still surrounds the great Mission.

In 1926, a fire destroyed most of the mission's heritage. An important link to the missions past still remains however in the form of the Church bells. A promise was given to King Charles IV in 1777 that they would be rung every night at 8:30 in memory of those who have died. The bells have been rung every night since then.

◆ **MISSION SAN JUAN BAUTISTA**
2nd and Mariposa Streets, write to: P.O. Box 410, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045

This mission was founded June 24, 1797 and named for Saint John the Baptist. In October of 1800, there were so many earthquakes that the padres decided to rebuild and enlarge the Church. In 1812, there was another powerful earthquake. The church walls were damaged and the archways were filled in with brick. In 1975, the church walls were restored. Currently, Mission San Juan Bautista has the only three-aisle church in the California Mission system.

◆ **MISSION NUESTRA SENORA DE LA SOLEDAD**
Our lady of Soledad, 36641 Fort Ramie Rd., write to: P.O. Box 506, Soledad, CA 93960

Mission Nuestra Senora de la Soledad was built as a link between San Antonio de Padua and Carmel. During the first forty-four years, thirty different priests governed the mission. Finally in 1803, Father Ibanez took control and successfully led the mission for fourteen years.

After Ibanez's death, Father Sarria gained control. There was little food but Fr. Sarria did what he could to share with all the missionaries and Native Americans. Fr. Sarria died of starvation one day during mass. Beginning in 1859, the mission crumbled for ninety years. Restoration began in 1954.

◆ **MISSION SAN JOSE**
43300 Mission Blvd. Write to: P.O. Box 3159, Mission San Jose, CA 94539-0315

Father Fermin founded Mission San Jose on June 11, 1797. It was named after Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church. Initially, there was much resistance by the Native Americans and there were only thirty-three living at the mission in the first year. Small pox and measles killed many Native Americans. Those that survived the epidemic were frightened into leaving the mission.

Father Duran taught the Native Americans music and created a successful choir that performed at other missions. He obtained a boat and was able to sail thirty miles across the bay and trade mission products with foreign ships.

The mission was extremely successful until Mexico took over in 1833. Secularization forced the lands to be given to the Native Americans but the Mexicans sold the land themselves and retained the profit. In 1858, the mission was returned to the Catholic Church.

◆ **MISSION SANTA CRUZ**
126 High St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Mission Santa Cruz was founded on September 25, 1791. That first year, the San Lorenzo River flooded the buildings. In 1793, the mission was moved to higher ground. A Mexican ruler founded a town across the river from the mission. The town attracted the wrong type of people. The town became a place for gambling and drinking.

In 1818, the pirate Bouchard threatened to invade the mission. The priests were ordered to find sanctuary in Mission Nuestra Senora de la Soledad. The mission padres sent town officials to the mission to pack up the mission's valuables. The officials instead broke into the wine reserves, got drunk and stole all of the Church's valuables. Amidst such uncertain times, Father Obles continued to run the mission. An earthquake destroyed the original mission in 1857. A new white church was built in 1887. In 1931, Gladys S. Doyle had a half-sized replica of the mission built.

◆ **MISSION SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS**

3321 16th St., San Francisco, CA 94110

It is argued whether the mission was founded on June 29 or October 9, 1976. It is named after Saint Francis of Assisi, a founder of the Franciscan order. Most people instead call it Mission Dolores because it is located on the edge of Lake Delores. (Lake Delores has since been filled with dirt and covered with houses.)

Father Martin Landaeta and Father Antonio Dante built admirable structures and buildings. However, they fed the Native Americans poorly and forced them to work extremely hard. Many Native Americans ran away from the mission. Others grew sick from diseases brought by the settlers. Many sick Native Americans moved to Mission San Raphael to escape San Francisco's dismal climate.

Mission San Francisco was the first mission to be secularized. The Native Americans had no desire to maintain the mission and no one wanted to buy it. The few ruined buildings remained the property of the Mexican government. During the Gold Rush, there was a racetrack and saloon on mission property. In 1858, James Buchanan returned the Church to the Catholic Church.

In 1917, Father John Sullivan reinforced the Church's roof with hidden steel beams. The small church has endured the major 1906 earthquake and others since. The Church now stands proudly as it did over two hundred years ago.

◆ **MISSION SAN RAFAEL ARCHANGEL**

1104 5th Ave. and A St., San Rafael, CA 94901

Mission San Rafael was built as a hospital for Native Americans from the Mission Dolores in San Francisco. It was named "Archangel" after the patron saint of good health. After the Native Americans became healthy, Father Juan Amoros took the priesthood.

Under Father Amoros, Native American men learned and practiced carpentry, blacksmithing, sandal-making, and boat-making. Women were taught to spin and weave wool and sew. After ten years, the mission was self-sufficient and given the title of full-fledged Mission.

Father Amoros fought against Native Americans Chief Marin and Quintin. Marin was baptized by the Father but switched alliances. Marin returned to the mission and died there in 1834. The local community was named after him. San Quentin prison was named after Father Amoros' rival, Quintin.

The mission was abandoned in 1844. John Fremont used the mission as base in his fight against the Mexicans in the war to claim California as a U.S. territory. In 1855, the U.S. government returned the crumbled and useless mission to the Catholic Church. Gypsies camped in the orchards and grounds during the 1860s. The mission was restored in 1949.

ORDER INFORMATION

To order the California Missions Patch Program please visit www.girlscoutsnorcal.org and purchase the items online. Please note that shipping and handling will be added to all online orders.

Members of Girl Scouts of Northern California will not be charged for shipping and handling if they use the GS NorCal Council's Own Order Form and have badges shipped to the closest GS NorCal store in their area for members to pick up.