Kino Movie - Cast and Credits

Father Kino Movie

Theater Release: 1977

The movie tells the story of Padre Kino in a commercial western movie genre with an all star cast. and beautiful Sonoran Desert setting. It begins in Baja California where Kino first started his work as a missionary, explorer and royal cartographer. Then the movie distills in the usual Hollywood style the 24 years of Kino's work in the Pimería Alta where he ministered to his beloved desert sharing O'odham (Pima) people. Kino brings peace to the violent frontier and helps the Jesuit missions return to Baja California.

Various Titles include:

Mission to Glory: A True Story (full length movie edition 116 minutes); The Father Kino Story (full length movie edition 116 minutes); Father Kino, Padre on Horseback (television edition 1977 92 minutes); Padre on Horseback, the Legendary Story of Padre Kino (video edition: 92 minutes)

Version Run Times: online: 92 minutes; original theater released: 116 minutes; TV: shorter time.

Film location near Cave Creek, north of Phoenix Arizona.

Cast and Characters In Order of Appearance

Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen - Narrator

Richard Egan - Father Eusebio Francisco Kino, heroic Jesuit missionary priest & famous explorer  
Cesar Romero - Admiral Isidro de Atondo y Antillón, leader of failed settlement effort in Baja Calif.

Joe Ansara - Father Matías Goñi, Kino's fellow missionary in Baja

John Ireland - Father Francisco de Xavier Mora, Kino's immediate superior & severe critic

William Dozier - Provincial Father Luís de Canto, Jesuit superior of Mexico

Keenan Wynn - Father Andrés Zerbantes, missionary at Yaqui   
Aldo Ray - cruel supervisor at silver mine near Alamos

Iris Coffin - Father Aguilar, missionary at Cucurpe

Henry Brandon - Father Canon González, missionary at Oposura

Anthony Caruso - Leader Coxi of Pima (O'odham) village of Cosari, Kino's Mission Dolores

Stephen McNally - Father Juan María Salvatierra, Jesuit inspector who later restarts Baja missions

Rory Calhoun - Captain Juan Mateo Manje, Spanish field commander and Kino ally

Danny Zapien - mistreated Pima (O'odham) man  
Joseph Petrullo - Father Francisco Xavier Saeta, new missionary at Caborca, later killed

Unknown Actor - Father Daniel Janusque, missionary at Tubutama

John Russell - Captain Antonio Solís, brutal Spanish field commander

Ricardo Montalbán - General Juan Fernández de la Fuente, Sonora's Spanish military leader Victor Jordy - Leader Tumanec - Pima (O'odham) leader living in Altar River Valley

Supporting Actors: Gail Escandon, Roy Gunzburg, Sterling Welker, O.B. Lewis, Shatka Bearstep

Director and Writer: Ken Kennedy

Producer: Arthur E. Coates; Assistant Producer: Harold E. Mott

Photography: G.W. "Dink" Read; Second Unit: Donovan Bell; Sound: Lloyd C. Lyman, Jr.; Special Effects: Candy Flanagan; Assistant Director: Robert Scrivner

Technical Advisors: Rev. E. J. Burris, S.J. Historian, Jesuit Order, Rome, Italy; Rev. Charles W. Polzer, Director, Southwestern Mission Research Center, Tucson, Arizona; Rev. Edward J. McDermott, S.J., President, Jesuit Secondary Education Association, Washington, D.C.; Rev. Willis J. Egan, Loyola University at Los Angeles