Honoring loss

ALL SOULS' DAY
And
DIA DE LOS MUERTOS
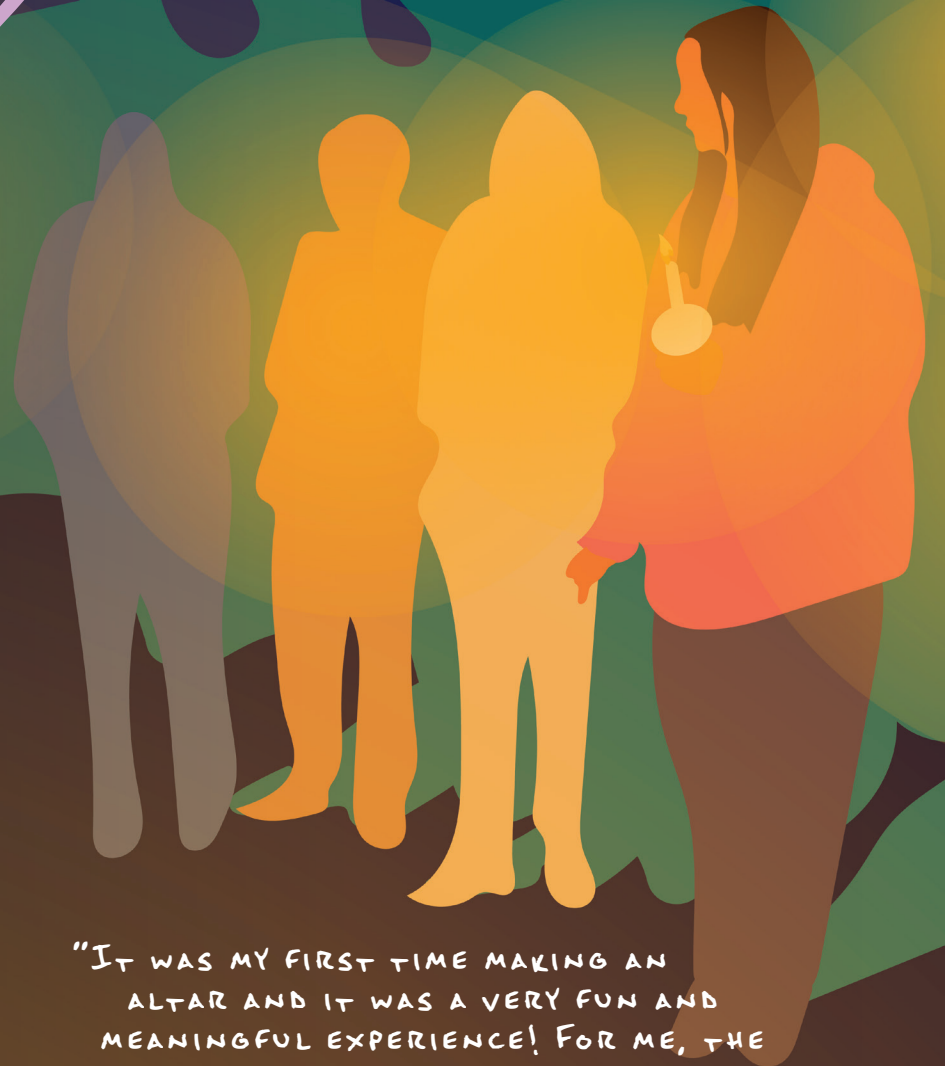
👁 M. CHEN ¶ J. WALESIEWICZ 〰 N. MEINS

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Sacred Heart Chapel hosted two gatherings on Nov. 2 to remember those who have passed, especially those lost to COVID-19. Nov. 2 is All Souls' Day, as well as Día de los Muertos, or the "Day of the Dead."

The afternoon mass celebrated All Souls' Day and was hosted by Edward Siebert, S.J., who voiced prayers for fallen members of the LMU community. It was a foggy afternoon, but with open windows, high ceilings and a crowd of LMU community members, the chapel brought in light. A black butterfly fluttered around the chapel during hymns and prayers.
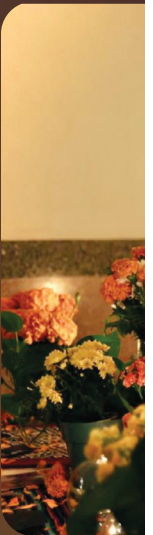
Day of the Dead is a day to celebrate the lives of the deceased and pray for their peace as they pass on. Often, there are visits to cemeteries and offerings to loved ones who have died. Offerings can include their favorite foods or some of their pieces of clothing.

The chapel held a candlelit vigil later that evening where students placed pictures or pieces of memorabilia of their passed loved ones on the ofrenda, an altar used for remembering and honoring the dead. The church continued to remember and pray for deceased loved ones through November.

"It was my first time making an altar and it was a very fun and meaningful experience! For me, the most important part about building an altar is being able to understand the meaning behind all the details that go on it. The papel picado represents wind and the presence of the souls and the marigolds serve as a way to light the dead towards their ofrendas. Paying attention to these things made me want to be more accurate."

MARIANA BRAVO
CLSS Assistant Programmer
Civil Engineering

altar

The ofrenda inside Sacred Heart Chapel features yellow marigold flowers, candles and photos of deceased loved ones. The Chicano Latino Student Services (CLSS) held multiple events in honor of Dia de los Muertos, including a Shoebox Altar workshop.

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