



The (La) Ofrenda St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic School Project 2023

In honor of our loved ones who have passed St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic School will participate in the Ofrenda school project during “Dia de los Muertos”. The (La) Ofrenda project will be displayed outside each homeroom classroom on Monday, October 30th through Friday, November 3rd. So, we can pray for the soul of those who’ve gone before us.

What is an ofrenda?

Ofrendas are an essential part of the Day of the Dead celebrations. The word *ofrenda* means offering in Spanish. They are also called *altares* or altars, but they are not for worship. Some people mistakenly think that Mexicans that set up ofrendas for their departed relatives are worshiping them. Nothing further from the truth. Most Mexicans are Christian Catholics, so they only worship God.

Ofrendas are set up to remember and honor the memory of their ancestors.

What are the Elements of the ofrenda?

- Water to remind us that Baptism promises Eternal life.
- Papel picado, or traditional paper banners, represent the wind, the sight of the Holy Spirit.
 - Food, especially bread, represents Jesus, the Bread of life.
- Candles are often left in the form of a cross to represent salvation in Jesus, so the souls can find their way to heaven.

How can your child participate in the ofrenda school project?

Students will be asked to bring:

- 4 x 6 pictures of any beloved family member, including pets.
- Pictures can be in a 4 x 6 frame. Label the picture frame on the back with student’s name/last name and grade.
 - Fake marigold flowers from the dollar tree.
 - Bring items October 25th - 27th.
- Participation is optional but we hope everyone can contribute to the ofrenda project.
 - Questions, please email cole@seseton.org

All Faculty and staff are welcome to display items for the Ofrenda. Items will be accepted October 26-28th.

Items displayed on the Ofrenda will be returned to contributors by Friday November 10.

