

SUN STAR

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004

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life!

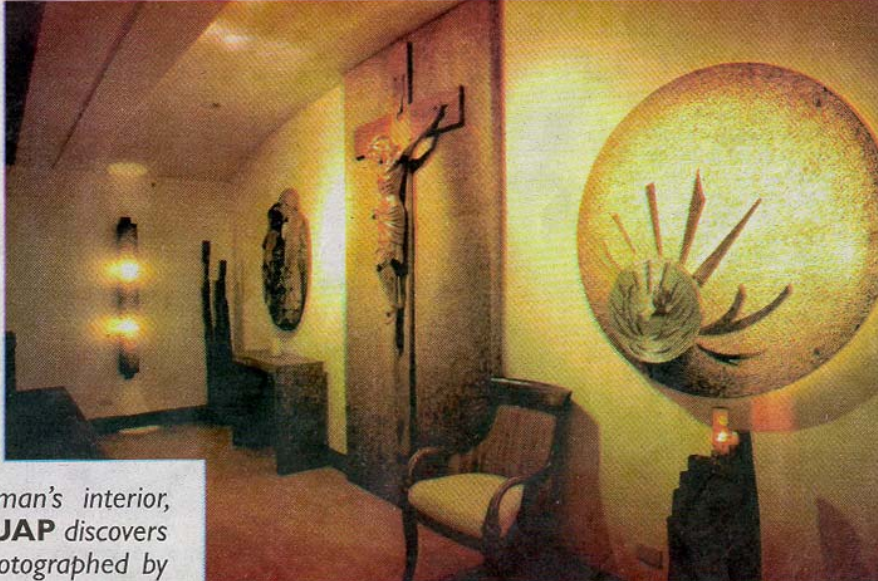
& LEISURE



ALTAR



LIGHT SHADES made of chopped bamboo shoots.



CHAPEL INTERIOR features a unique tabernacle shaped like a host.

In a house that's built for man's interior, Arch. Karl A.E.F. Cabilao, UAP discovers interiors styled for the soul. Photographed by Allan Cuizon.

"The depth of his being was peace, his clothing was humility; his life was the calm, steady flow of a river without sudden sharp falls nor overflows."

This was the vision put into words by Bishop Javier Lauzurica, a friend and companion of Luis Amigo. Such insight is palpable in the chapel interiors (courtesy of its designer, Debbie Palao) of the Luis Amigo Ladies Dormitory along Pelaez Street.

The chapel, which was blessed by no less than Cardinal Vidal about six months ago, is nestled just a few paces from the dormitory's main entrance. Only the atrium separates the two spaces. With its Zen ambience, the chapel takes the person sending his/her prayers to the One above truly closer to Him. The asymmetrically arranged, bamboo-themed furniture - from the altar to the table that holds the candles - brings the "openness" of nature inside the otherwise enclosed space.

The wall behind the altar, which glows even in its simplicity, displays intricately carved figures of the

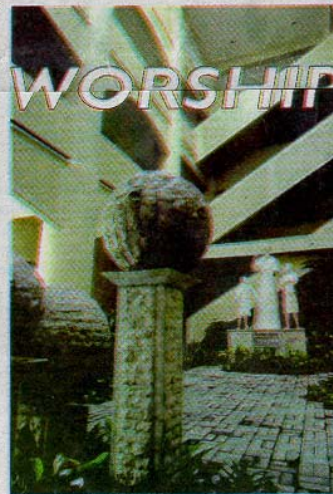
Crucified Jesus and the Holy Family from Paete, Laguna. The tabernacle is in the form of a giant host that radiates its light of forgiveness to whoever is willing to submit his sinful self to God.

The light shades reveal several black rings, which are actually chopped bamboo shoots randomly inlaid in fiberglass (the same kind used in the tabernacle). These lighting fixtures provide warm local lighting when one drops by the chapel and offer prayers in silence.

The picture windows at the right side of the chapel frame the mini garden. These not only proved their worth in aesthetics by painting a real-life picture of the plants and landscaping outside, but with the natural lighting advantages it offers.

Stepping into this small but sacred niche, one would surely feel the warmth and love of Luis Amigo and God through its tranquil interiors.

A NICHE for solemn WORSHIP



DORMITORY COURTYARD

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In a house that's built for man's interior, Arch. Karl A.E.F. Cabilao, UAP discovers interior styled for the soul. Photograph by Allan Cuizon.

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Luis Amigo: Capuchin, Founder and Bishop

For his gentle countenance, illumined by the shades of apostolic energy and a heart that increases without bound by strength of love and humanism, Luis Amigo is often referred to as a “gift of the Spanish Church to the Universal Church”, “a window of fresh air for the Church” and the “apostle of marginalized children and youth”.

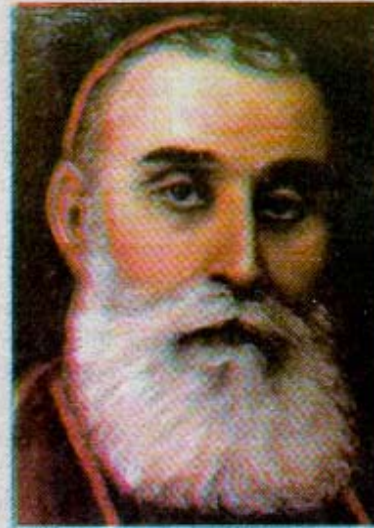
Luis Amigo, (whose real name is Jose Maria Amigo y Ferrer), was born in 1854 in Valencia, Spain to parents of great faith (Don Gaspar Amigo y Chulvi and Doña Genoveva Ferrer y Doset).

Ever since his childhood years, Luis Amigo has given signs of openness to the will of God and generosity in relating to others. He actively worked on his self-formation by joining religious congregations. He dedicated himself with much ardor to popular preaching, and the organization of the Third Order

Franciscan Secular. One great concern of his apostolic spirit was the Christian education of the young ones.

Completely in love with the ideal of Secular Franciscanism, Luis Amigo's contact with this tertiary spirituality made him a mystic of divine reparation. The two Congregations of Capuchin Tertiary Sisters of the Holy Family and the Capuchin Tertiary Fathers and Brothers of our Lady of Sorrows are based on this merciful work.

Luis Amigo died on October 1, 1934 at the age of 80 in the mother house of the Capuchin Tertiaries in Godella, Valencia, Spain. Three days after, his remains were buried in his place of birth in Masamagrell at the pantheon of his



LUIS AMIGO

children, where they still lie until the present.

Today, October 17, the whole Capuchin congregation around the world commemorates the 150th Birth Anniversary of Luis Amigo. Here in Cebu, the Capuchin Sisters had an advance celebration with their dormers at Luis Amigo Ladies Dormitory last Oct. 2, since by now the girls would already be on their semestral breaks. According to Sr. Luz Maria, directress of the dormitory, “the celebration wouldn't be more special and significant without the young girls.” Surely, with that, Luis Amigo is smiling up there. (Karl Cabillao)

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