



Press Release

Recognition of a miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable sister Maria Carola Cecchin

Today, at the special audience granted to the Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, Pope Francis authorised the publication the decree on the Miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable **Sister Maria Carola Cecchin** (in the world, Fiorina) Religious of the Congregation of the St. Joseph Benedict Cottolengo, born on 3rd April 1877 at Cittadella (Padua) and died in the ship while travelling Kenya back to Italia on 13th November 1925.

The Mother General of the Congregation of Cottolengo Sisters, **Mother Elda Pezzuto**, together with **Fr. Arice Carmine**, the Father General of the Little House of the Divine Providence (Cottolengo), in union with **Brother Giuseppe Visconti**, the Superior General of Cottolengo Brothers announce their joy on behalf of the Little House in the world, and in a special way the one present in Africa for this gift of God's Providence. They express their gratitude to the Holy Father for authorising the publication of the decree of the miracle attributed to the intercession Sister Maria Carola.

"This miracle", underlines the postulator **Sr Antonietta Bosetti**, a Cottolengo sister, "concerns the return to life in a complete and lasting way, without any scientific explanation of new-born **Msafiri Hilary Kiama** who had been confirmed 'stillbirth', for coming to the light without any signs of life by lack of cardiac activity, muscle tone and purple colouring". The said child was born on 14th April 2013 in the Land Rover on the way from Gatunga to Matiri (Meru – Kenya) and later on with the incessant prayer of Sr. Catherine, a Cottolengo sister, seeking intercession of the servant of God Sr. Maria Carola, suddenly the child started breathing and now after eight years the child is growing serenely.

Sister Elda Pezzuto the Mother General of the Cottolengo Sisters, expressed her great joy, which is also the joy of all the congregation, for the good news. She joins the sisters of African Delegation in this joy and asks them to bring this good news to the family of the child who received the miracle and share a caress with the child, Msafiri Hilary Kiama.

Suor Lucia Mossucca - Stefano Di Lullo

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“Let’s continue praying with the intercession of Sister Maria Carola”, she pleads, so that especially in this period of waiting for the birth of Christ, life may be desired, welcomes like a gift and loved in its peculiarity and uniqueness. Thanks be to God always!”

“This news is a source of great joy for the entire Little House in the world,” **Fr. Carmine Arice** affirms, “We are sure that the Lord is gifting us with the example of Sr. Maria Carola on the donors of the altar to indicate to use how we should be faithful in continuing the spread of the charism of St. Joseph Benedict Cottolengo here in Italy and in the whole world”.

Special thanks to the Postulator **sister Antonietta Bosetti** who has worked diligently along these years to ensure that the process is followed as it should.

Turin, 13th December 2021

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