

Sister Irene was born at Anfo, Brescia (Italy) on the 22nd August 1891. At the age of 20, attracted by the Missionary Ideal and feeling called by the Lord whom she loved intensely, she joined the Consolata Sisters' Institute at Turin that had been founded by the Blessed Joseph Allamano. Having taken the first vows on the 29th January 1914, Sr. Irene soon received the "Mandate" for the Mission of Kenya, which she reached in January the following year.

In Africa she lived charity up to the heroism. During the First World War (1915-1918), Sr. Irene became very soon the "angel of charity", as a medical colonel called her, in the military hospitals in Kenya and Tanzania. Later she was giving herself unsparingly in the Mission of Gikondi (1920-1930) and the people were calling her with the nickname "Nyaatha" meaning 'Merciful Mother'.

Those who remember her springing figure, gives also its motivation: it was Love that urged her" In October 1930, Sr. Irene offers to God her life for the Mission.

Her mortal remains rest in the church of Our Lady Consolata at Nyeri, in Kenya

In the 1984 the Beatification cause was introduced in the Church of Nyeri, Kenya and in the one of Turin, Italy. On the 2nd April 2011 Pope Benedict XVI authorized the issue of the Decree on her "**Heroic Virtues**" and Sister Irene was proclaimed **Venerable**.

The miracle attributed to the intercession of Sr. Irene Stefani, which opened the way to the Beatification Process, was the one of the multiplication of water in the Baptismal fount of the Parish of Nipepe (Diocese of Lichinga , Niassa, Mozambique), water that was used for four days by about 270 persons sheltered there to escape the violence of the civil war.

The documentation was collected in the **ecclesiastical process** that was carried on from the 18th to the 26th July 2010 in Mozambique. In the various step required, for the approval of the of the miracle, there are no negative opinions nor doubts in the consideration of validity of the miracle of Nipepe, everyone rather agreed that " there is no natural credible explanation of the multiplication of the "water" , so it was to be attributed to a supernatural intervention.

The process of the enquiry was concluded with the final approval of the Pope Francis who, in the 12th June 2014 he put his signature to the **Decree of the Beatification of Sister Irene Stefani**.

Sister Irene's Programme of life

"Jesus alone; All with Jesus, nothing by myself, nothing of myself, everything only for Jesus, nothing for me: Do this and you will live! On the 21st September she writes, further: Spirit of active charity, piety, and gentleness. That's all!"



You can support the canonization process by sending a contribution to:
Bank Name CITIBANK NA
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Account Name Sr. Irene Stefani Beatification-Consolata Sisters
Account N. 0102797091
MPESA Account 0714482115 SR Vincenza

BLESSED IRENE STEFANI



23rd May 2015
Archdiocese of Nyeri - Kenya

HER IDEALS

Sr. Irene lived charity described by St. Paul and has translated the hymn of Charity through expressions that incarnate the Gospel.

“The Missionary is the one who has a heart for loving, the hands for helping, the mouth for announcing” and she concluded: “This is all!”

Love is patient. Love is kind. Love does not boast.

“To sow joy and happiness without expecting praises”

“Charity of sacrifice, patience, self-will’s denial, being able to keep silent, to humble and control oneself”.

Love does not lack respect. Love does not seek his own interest.

“With the help of Mary Most Holy, I will love Charity more than myself”. When one loves really, one does not feel fatigue and everything becomes possible”.

Love will never end.

“To love, to love everyone, to love with God, like God, in God, For God”....

Baptismal Fount where the Miracle took place



Her Boots



Young Irene



The Church of Anfo



Blessed Irene’s Family

PRAYER

Heavenly Father we thank you for the gift of Blessed Irene Stefani. We pray that her Beatification may urge us to imitate her in commitment to holiness and to Jesus totally and completely.

Let her charity and her heroic missionary life increase in us the fervent desire of announcing and witnessing the Gospel for the coming of your Kingdom, at the service of the Church and of the mission.

May Blessed Irene, angel of charity, help us to love You above all things, in taking care of the weak, the sick, the marginalized, and those far away.

May she inspire us to spread the perfume of your love and happiness.

May Mother Mary Consolata guide us in bringing consolation and fullness of life always and everywhere.

Amen