

The Focolare Movement solicits the opening of the cause of canonization of Chiara Lubich

Today, December 7, 2013, Maria Voce announced that the formal request for the opening of the cause of canonization of Chiara Lubich is to be presented to Mons. Raffaello Martinelli, Bishop of Frascati. The founder of the Focolare Movement passed away on March 14, 2008 in Rocca di Papa.

Maria Voce said, “This act invites us all to a life of greater holiness, lived day by day to contribute towards collective sanctity, that sanctity of the people so dear to Chiara’s heart”.

It is the Catholic Church’s tradition to present to its faithful role models, persons who have distinguished themselves by a particular witness of faith and love for God. This happens after a canonical process of verification on life, on heroic virtues, on reputation of holiness and other signs have been carried out. At least five years from their death have to pass before this process is initiated.

In this period both ordinary and prominent people, Catholics, members of other Churches, religions and cultures have expressed their hope that this process would be started for Chiara Lubich. It has been said that such recognition will encourage many to take a further personal, spiritual and moral commitment for the good of humanity.

This formal request has been signed precisely on the day which marks the 70th anniversary since the beginning of the Focolare Movement in the presence of numerous men and women focolarini gathered at Castelgandolfo for their annual meeting. It will now be presented and then examined by competent ecclesiastical authority as prescribed by the law and practice of the Church.

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