

## How West Croydon



### had its blessing last weekend with Corpus Christi

West Croydon received a vibrant blessing last weekend, (2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024) as the parish of St Mary's, Our Lady of Reparation, held a Corpus Christi procession. Over 200 parishioners took part in the celebratory walk, showcasing their faith and inviting the wider community to share the experience.

Corpus Christi, which translates to "Body of Christ" in Latin, is a Catholic feast celebrating the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. For the parish, it was an opportunity to publicly express their Faith and share the joy of the Eucharist with the local community.



The event proved to be a success, not just for the participants, but for curious onlookers as well. Several members of the public approached parishioners, eager to understand the meaning behind the procession. These interactions highlighted the positive impact faith can have in fostering connections within the community.

Bathed in glorious sunshine, the procession began at the church, exiting on to a bustling Wellesley Road from its glass doors. The Blessed Sacrament was held high by the Parish Priest, Father Patrick and flanked and supported by Altar Servers and the Knights of St. Columba.

Heaving numbers of church-goers followed as the procession entered Woburn Road, into Tavistock Road, Bedford Park then back onto Wellesley Road before returning.

Shoppers, people in high rise flats and Sunday traffic, were treated to a procession delight as hymns filled the air and participants prayed the Rosary and

offered praise to God. The organisers extend their sincere gratitude to all the volunteers and members of the local community who contributed to the procession success, as well as the police officers who provided support.

Encouraged by the positive response, the parish hopes to make the Corpus Christi procession an annual tradition in West Croydon.



For more information on the parish including Mass times, please visit the website: <https://saint-mary.org.uk/>