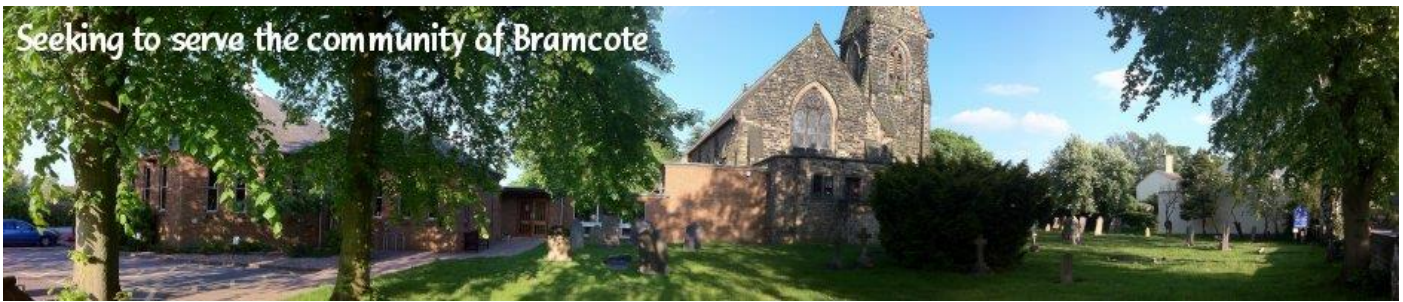


# Saint Michael and All Angels Parish Church, Bramcote



**Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

**Bible Readings:** Psalm 70; Exodus 2:11-22; Hebrews 9:1-14  
*Each reading may be viewed at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)*

## **Reflection:** ①

The Psalmist reminds us in Psalm 70 that life can sometimes appear to be extremely hard, wherein our constant prayer is that God would instantly deliver us from our pain and suffering. Unfortunately, God's response is not always as instant as we should like it to be. It's not that God hasn't heard our prayer, or is indifferent to our sufferings, rather that He sometimes delays His response until we have seen the bigger picture and responded accordingly. It's like the small child who insists on doing something unadvisable, but continually refuses to heed their parent's advice to desist. For such a child to grow, it's sometimes necessary for the parent to allow their child to fully realise the consequences of their actions. Clearly, never that they may be seriously harmed, but always that they might come to understand the need for necessary guidelines and boundaries within life. In short, as human beings we simply cannot do our own thing and expect not to experience the consequences of doing so. Fortunately, with God it is never too late for us to return to Him and see Him act.

## **Prayers:**

### **For all those affected by coronavirus**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **For our healthcare professionals**

Heavenly Father, I thank you for all our healthcare professionals who try so hard to dedicate their time and career to heal and make others well. Those who have a heart to care for those in suffering and pain. I ask that You would give them wisdom in caring and attending to others, that they can bear to see the suffering and not take it to heart. For all they have done, Lord, please grant them the reward you promised for those attending the sick: "Come, blessed of my Father, here is the kingdom made ready for you." In Jesus' name, I pray, Amen.

"Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5.7