

Don't get hooked!

Be on the lookout for phishing scams!

(A Message from Bishop Deon Johnson about Phishing Scams 09-11-2020)

Have you received an email or a text message from a person or company you know, asking you to send money, gift cards or help in some way? This is likely a phishing scam.

The diocese has received multiple reports of phishing scams in the last few weeks. Many of these emails look like they're coming from your parish priest, or even your bishop. They may ask you to send money or click on a link to provide personal information.

It is important for everyone to be aware of these scams. Although the email may look like it's coming from your priest, look closely -- you will likely find a misspelling or the domain will be wrong.

DO NOT reply to the messages, **DO NOT** give any personal information, and **DO NOT** send money! We advise you to delete the message.

If you receive an email or text and are unsure of its origins, call your parish office and make sure the email was not from the church. Again, **DO NOT** directly respond to the message.

To learn more about how to recognize and avoid phishing scams, check out this information from the Federal Trade Commission:

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-recognize-and-avoid-phishing-scams>