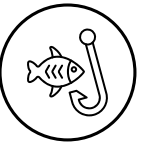


# IS IT PHISHING?

## PROTECTING YOURSELF AND YOUR PARISH FROM INTERNET SCAMS



### WHAT IS PHISHING?

Phishing scams attempt to *bait* you into believing a person you know and trust has emailed you by using their name and personal details. Phishers create a fake email address with another person's name. The email will often be addressed to you personally and will include a request that you urgently transfer money or purchase gift cards on their behalf.



### WHAT IS HACKING?

Hacking is when an individual gains control of your computer, email account or other social media account. Hackers usually target large organizations to obtain information such as bank or credit card numbers; they are less likely to target individuals or small organizations.

## HOW CAN I SPOT PHISHING?

### A CLERGY OR CHURCH LEADER EMAILED ME AND REQUESTED THAT I:

- help with an urgent request (but with little explanation/description)
- purchase gift cards on their behalf
- send cash via an e-transfer, PayPal, Venmo, Zelle, or other digital method
- provide personal data, such as my Social Insurance Number or banking data
- provide my login credentials to an email account



### A CLERGY OR CHURCH LEADER SENT ME AN EMAIL THAT:

- arrived with their name in FROM but the email address is unfamiliar
- says they are busy and can only be contacted via email at this time



To: Maggie Smith  
From: Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee  
<bishop332@gmail.com>  
Subject: Urgent request

## HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF?

1

Remember: your clergy and church leaders will NEVER ask you for money or gift cards; if you believe there may be an exception, call and confirm by phone.

2

Clergy will ONLY email you from either their diocesan staff email (first initial + last name followed by [@bc.anglican.ca](mailto:bc.anglican.ca)) or their parish email (incumbent@<parishURL>.ca). Emails from clergy that end with @gmail, @hotmail, @outlook, etc. are SCAMS.

3

Wardens, treasurers and parish administrators are assigned parish addresses and will only email you from wardens@<parishURL>.ca, treasurer@<parishURL>.ca, or admin@<parishURL>.ca.