



Fraudsters target church congregations

Criminals are experts at impersonating people, including clergy and church officers. The criminals are becoming more confident with church language and hope that you'll let your guard down.

How to spot an impersonation scam

- You receive a call, text, email, or message with an urgent request to make a payment, buy a gift card or move money to another account.
- You receive a message from someone in the church requesting urgent financial assistance.
- You're pressured to act immediately, or they demand secrecy.
- They ask for confidential information or your bank details.
- The sender's email address isn't one usually used by the church or diocese, or looks very slightly different.

Stay safe from fraud

- Stop and think before clicking links or replying to a message
- Email the church office or the diocese to check if a message is genuine
- Report suspicions of fraudulent activity to Action Fraud: 0300 123 2040 | [actionfraud.police.uk](https://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

Clergy and leaders will never ask you for gift vouchers or an urgent transfer of money.