

*A scam is being perpetrated across the country by malicious individuals preying on churches and members of the clergy. The scam plays on your sympathies or your natural inclination to be helpful. Any communication asking you to purchase gift cards should be considered a scam. You should always verify such requests by calling the parish directly. Don't use phone numbers in the fraudulent email. Always look for the parish's official phone number found on our website or in our Sunday bulletin. In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for money or personal information – including a request for gift cards of any type – exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity being impersonated by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request. Financial fraud like the Gift card scam can be reported to the FTC here: <https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov> and to learn more read this article <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/avoiding-and-reporting-gift-card-scams> from the FTC.*