



Archdiocese of Newark
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

December 18, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach the commemoration of the Savior's birth, I invite you to join me in maintaining our vigilance against COVID-19 and thereby offer a gift of love to our neighbors, especially the most vulnerable. Together we can celebrate safely and responsibly by maintaining safeguarding measures, including wearing masks, maintaining social distancing, and using mobile technology to vanquish this terrible virus.

You can learn more on tips and guidance for how to safely observe holiday traditions like caroling, visiting Santa, or traveling for the holidays at <https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/slowing-the-spread/how-can-i-safely-celebrate-the-holiday-season> by the New Jersey Department of Health.

You can also help by downloading the **COVID Alert NJ** app and encouraging family, friends, and neighbors to do the same. COVID Alert NJ is an exposure notification mobile app that anonymously notifies users of potential exposure to COVID-19 while maintaining user privacy and security. It is free and secure, available to anyone 18 or older who lives, works, or attends college in New Jersey; I have one on my cell phone. The app can be downloaded from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store (go to <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/app>). The more people that download the app on their phones, the better we can fight this pandemic. The states of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware have cooperated to ensure all COVID Alert exposure notification apps will work across the region.

May the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, bless you and yours!

Sincerely yours in Christ the Redeemer,

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark

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Archdiocesan Center

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