

# Merry Christmas Eve



My front door wreath in 2009

Even though I don't feel like I've completed everything for this holiday, I have an odd sense of calm about it. The magic of Christmas happens regardless. Today, I am just enjoying the rainy day and the blessings the season brings.





I can't believe another decade is ending soon. What will the next 10 years bring? Ten years ago, motherhood was my primary role as the children were 14, 12 and 8. And just like that ~~ two have graduated college and are financially independent and the third just finished her first college semester.





Last year's Christmas dinner table

The holidays can be very challenging and lonely for some. I recognize that life isn't as glorious as portrayed on social



media or Pinterest. It's not easy to forget those holidays when I mourned the loss of loved ones or struggled with other personal pain. But when you have a good year, it should be celebrated.



My goal for the rest of 2019 is to live purposefully and with



intention. When the children were small, I often told them to replace the words “have to” with the words “get to”. And better yet, add “ I am lucky I get to....”. Whether it means washing the dishes, doing laundry, or wrapping gifts, if we just change our perspective and take joy in the simplest of chores, then it doesn’t feel like such a burden.



When we lighten our loads, we create space to be joyful with others. So, this morning, I “get to write a blog post”. I feel so lucky that you have chosen to follow Life at Bella Terra. Your comments and feedback are inspiring. You are my gifts this Christmas. My appreciation and gratitude is deep.



Wherever you are in the journey of life, I wish you and yours,  
from the bottom of my heart, a blessed, stress-free, and  
loving holiday.

*Mary*