

## Colleen's Contemplations – December 2009

This is a festive month of gift giving and family gathering, so I've decided to give all of you a gift this month. I've frequently said that my purpose in life was to make everyone else feel like better moms, cooks, and housekeepers; so toward that end I am sharing.

This is the first year my son does not have big sister on the bus with him, so I've been sure to be home when the bus gets there, and I thought we'd talked about what to do in case I wasn't there. Well, the day I was 15 minutes late was a rainy day, so I was really hoping he'd either remembered the garage code or gone over to his friend's house. No such luck, since it was garbage day he just crawled into an empty garbage can by the curb to wait for me.

I don't cook much at all anymore, so people have low expectations. At church potlucks they have me bring bread of some sort. It's a loving, forgiving congregation, so since the last time I ruined the basic unroll and cook crescent rolls they've continued to assign me bread, but they have back-up bread now too.

Lately I've been having a friend come clean my house every other week. It's been very nice, but you would think my house would look cleaner between visits too. Well my husband put it nicest when he looked around one day and said our cleaning lady must feel blessed to have such tremendous job security.

And lastly, in case you think I have any aspect of my life under my own control, not a day goes by successfully without me on my knees at some point to say whoops, I tried to go it alone again, please help me back on track and protect the all the innocent bystanders to what is my very less than perfect life. And a quick gift to me... this year is 15 yrs since my parents died. Not a day goes by that I don't wish I could share all these stories and more with them. So when you write that glowing Christmas letter, include some of the honest stuff, it seems to make a lot of people feel better, which is something we all need these days.

Colleen Woerner  
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