

Dear Family,

June 3, 2021

Congratulations to Kristen *and* Josh and for the upcoming wedding of Emily and Andrew! I will keep the good news coming as Kaylin and her longtime boyfriend Dustyn got engaged a couple months ago. They are young, but if there were ever two peas in a pod, it is them. Kaylin will graduate (God willing) next year so they're planning a summer 2022 wedding. With both of their career choices, there's so much unknown that waiting is pointless. Kaylin will graduate with a degree in biotechnology and minor in chemistry. Her dream is to work in environmental toxicology so where she will wind up going for her Masters is completely up in the air. Dustyn is going for wildlife management and hopes to be a game warden or forest ranger but he can be stationed anywhere in NY for quite a while until he has seniority. Why not go through the adventure together? For now, Kaylin is working part time at a local greenhouse and planning on lifeguarding again at the town pool as she's done for years.

As for my other children, Arianna is pretty status quo except that she's planning on buying the little house that she's currently renting from my brother Steve. Isaac, the total and complete apple of my eye, turned two on February 4<sup>th</sup> and keeps me (and Aunt Claire) very busy with babysitting duties.

Matthew, Mark and Luke are finishing up 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Besides school activities which are slowly starting to open back up, they love to spend time in the garage working on their quads (four wheelers) and dirt bikes (motorcycles). Besides their list of chores around the house and farm, they are also quite busy doing odd jobs for neighbors such as yardwork and firewood. Matthew and Mark have already put in their applications to lifeguard along with Kaylin as they became certified last summer. Matthew and Luke are planning on going to BOCES next September for auto mechanic and auto body respectfully. BOCES is an optional hands-on technical school which is offered in our school district every day after they complete their core academic classes at the HS in the morning. Mark is a bit more of an academic and wants to remain in the traditional HS setting. They also continue in our church as altar servers for the High Latin Mass and Mark has recently become a member of the choir!

John's job at Frost Valley Camp is still on thin ice as a result of Covid-19. While he's been working ever since coming back from furlough at the end of May last year, they're working with a skeleton crew and bookings are low. I don't want to get political, but Governor Cuomo is really incompetent! For someone who got an *award* for his *wonderful* communications skills during the "pandemic", he sure has left the camping industry hanging regarding the protocols and guidelines they're mandated to follow this summer! It's a bit difficult to take reservations for groups, plan activities and organize cabins when you don't even know capacity restrictions! The camp was also contacted this spring as a possible candidate for taking 300 or so unaccompanied illegal alien minors from the border. So far, I guess our wonderful government has found closer housing than the middle of nowhere Catskills NY, but who knows what the future will bring? Suffice to say, John isn't really happy with his job as of late.

Life for me never has a dull moment as a mom, grandma and caretaker. I honestly couldn't do it without your prayers, so please keep them coming, as I do pray for all of you also! Ninety-year-old mom obviously doesn't have the May genes regarding longevity! Her condition continues to deteriorate at a painstakingly slow rate but the old ticker just keeps on ticking! She does enjoy Isaac's frequent visits, still wants to be hugged and she knows Jesus when our priest comes to visit!

I also want to include a hello from Ken! He's busy on the farm with the vegetable gardens as well as many other projects on deck for this summer such as staining the house. He also stays out of trouble with his dairy farm and beefers further upstate. He asks for prayers also for the farm community in America which is being decimated at an alarming rate and just like everything else, being taken over by BIG corporations!

Thank you again for your prayers! They are working so let's keep holding each other up!

Love,  
John, Arianna, Ananna, Kaylin, Matthew,  
Mark, Luke & Isaac Xxsooo

2-410

Howdy, all. Hope you are all well and happily emerging out of the Covid Twilight Zone. Thank God for vaccines, dedicated health care workers and all of us who have done our parts big and small to beat this virus. We had very limited contact with most family from November – April. But now all Dreher and Clines adults are vaccinated so we have been able to gather. On May 15, Bunny and I celebrated our # 70 (yikes!) with our sibs in NJ. [70 is a little daunting ... I keep thinking of the lyric in the 60's Simon & Garfunkel song, 'Old Friends': "how terribly strange to be 70"]. Back in my teenage years it seemed impossible to get that old. HA! Anyway, I am grateful to have arrived safe and reasonably sound with family and friends for the start of my 80<sup>th</sup> decade.

Covid brought one good thing – **Kate** has been living with George and me for a year. Last time that happened was 1995! She can do all her work virtually connecting with people on all continents. She will probably return to Mexico sometime this summer. It has been grand to share all seasons (and holidays - such as they were) with her. And she does all the dishes! **Ian, Matt and Carolyn** all have worked remotely from NJ, but Ian is now going into the office a bit and Matt hopes to start again soon. I've been working full-time in the library the last year (often without any patrons), and soon we will be back to regular hours and more in-house services for patrons. Retirement within a year for me! **George** was able to do months of track coaching in the fall, winter and late spring with truncated seasons. Grandson **Nate** (5) just finished pre-K. Granddaughter **Claire** (7) has had a "meh" second grade of mostly virtual teaching. We hope to see them frequently this summer.

Our veggie garden is taking off as usual. 60 tomato plants, lettuce, squash, etc. Happy work. We go out our backyard into the state park almost every day for exercise. Lots of people have discovered the trails back there since Covid hit. I'm trying to avoid deer ticks this summer. ☺

It's good to know that all of us have stayed safe and we keep chugging, no matter what age we are. The young'uns all sound BUSY. Hope that all health issues are under control a/o well behind us. Thanks, everyone, for all the detailed news. Who knew what it took to sell a Catholic church building? (Btw, my parish school is closing after 70 years. Sad.) Thinking often of Aunt Claire, and all her caregivers. You are wonders. Onward, May family!

*Love to all  
Barbara & the Dreher clan*

Dear Family,

7/9/21

I continue to keep all of you in my prayers during my morning walks though my walks are taking longer and longer since my energy levels are decreasing. I am happy to report that my treatments are still going well and the last 2 PET scans showed no signs of the cancer. Though the cancer cannot be cured, the medications are keeping it at bay which is giving me more time with family and friends. My health is in the Lord's hands and I continue to enjoy and appreciate every day.

Augie also had a problem with his pacemaker. He needed a lead replaced but since he's had it done before they needed to find another vein to connect to. Unfortunately they had to go across his chest so the surgery was a lot more involved and he spent 2 days in the hospital and 4 weeks of me playing his nurse.

In May we attended 3 graduations. Our oldest grandchild, Ashley received her BA in special education and has a job lined up already. Her sister, Amber graduated HS and Michael's oldest, August, "graduated" from preschool. We were fortunate to have ALL the family together for one big graduation party. It had been almost 3 years since we were last all together.

Know that you are all with me every day in my heart and prayers. All our LOVE.

*Rosni & Augie*

7/16/21

Hi from MKE...

Where I'm enjoying some cooler temps after a steamy visit back home! A big sign of 'better times' is that my trips home are getting more frequent - from eight months between to seven, then two. Next up: Emily's wedding on Oct 2!

As usual, summer in Milwaukee means LOTS of outdoor swimming at my apartment complex's pool. It's only 3 months of the year, but it's the main reason I'm in my 31st year at this address!

Stay covid safe, everyone...



July 21, 2021

Dear Family,

In early December, as expected, the last of the cruises planned pre-pandemic, a Southern Caribbean cruise in February 2021, was cancelled. (That was #3!) The Canadian Adventure cruise that we "lifted and shifted" from September 2020 to the same week in 2021 was then cancelled (again); this time because Royal Caribbean sold the ship we were to sail on. We received Future Cruise Credits, and decided to 'park' some of the credits on cruises departing in September 2021 (from NJ) and February 2022 (from Barbados). We're hopeful that those cruises will, in fact, go on. Meanwhile, we continued to look for opportunities to go on road trips for several days at a time. We spent four days in Virginia Beach in November (It was a ghost town!), and another five days in Gatlinburg, TN in February. While we were comfortable at the beginning of that stay, we were surprised by the throngs of people who showed up in Gatlinburg on the Saturday, and had to retreat back to our hotel, rather than mix with so many people. We returned to Southwest NC and TN for several days in May (post-vaccination) to go on an excursion on the Watauga Valley Railroad. Most recently, we went on a 12-day road trip to the Northeast at the end of June and into July. We visited Lorraine, Ken and Aunt Claire on our way to Lake George. We then swung through VT and NH before meeting up with Ed & Janet Ebert at their beach condo in Oguquit, ME. We then stopped on Long Island to visit with Danie's relatives at a Fourth of July party, and celebrated Alan's birthday with his family before heading back home (BTW, we learned that Will and Alysha are engaged - No plans at present.) Upcoming is a 7-day trip to Sonoma, CA in November to join Ed & Janet Ebert in wine country, if the place doesn't burn down(!)

The chaotic distribution of vaccines in Virginia began in January. It took about 2 months to get some organization to the rollout. I received a call from my doctor's office in early March, and was able to make the appointment for the next day to receive the Moderna vaccine. On the same day I got the call from the doctor's office, we both received emails from the state's pre-registration system that we could make a reservation for the mass distribution site, which Danie did the next day. She received the Pfizer vaccine. By April 1, we both had received the second doses. Aside from injection site soreness, Danie's only symptoms following the second dose of Pfizer was tiredness for two days. I, on the other hand, had a headache, joint / muscle aches and tiredness that lasted 24 hours. Our 14-day "juicing up" period was completed on April 15. Confirmation of the vaccine's affect on my immune system was received the next day, when an antibody test performed as part of the platelet donation process identified my status as "reactive", meaning that I had antibodies, but no markers for the virus itself. Subsequent tests after multiple donations since have shown the same result.

As the numbers of vaccinations in Virginia rapidly increased and the numbers of cases of coronavirus rapidly decreased, the march toward a return to normalcy picked up speed in May. K of C and church group meetings returned to in-person, or hybrid in-person / online events. The calendar is filling up again. All capacity restrictions have now been lifted in Virginia, and most stores, churches and other venues have gone to an honor system with regard to mask wearing and social distancing. All venues are scrambling to set up concerts and festivals (stymied, of course, by the lack of people interested in working) and eight "Broadway in Richmond" plays (2 from the 2019/2020 season and all six of the 2020/2021 season) have finally been rescheduled for later this year and into 2022.

**Danie:** Having made dozens of masks for us and others, Danie had enough and returned to quilt-making, (using a newly acquired AccuQuilt fabric (die) cutter to make quick work of making all of those little pieces that she then sews back together again), and adding embroidery to pre-made items and quilts. Lately, she has been making/embellishing/personalizing items with decals made on a Cricut machine that she recently purchased. She participated in a multitude of Zoom meetings and virtual classes throughout, but classes and sewing groups quickly returned to in-person events, so she's out a day/night or two (or three, or four . . .) every week.

**Claudine & Laughton:** Claudine had been regularly going to her office to work since mid-February, even though many others, including the client manager she worked for, continued to work from home. In April, she was contacted by a former co-worker from her previous job, who moved to another IT staffing firm before Claudine was let go in March 2020. At the time she was booted, he was not in a position to take on additional staff at his new place, but now conditions have changed. He made an offer to Claudine, and she accepted. She started working at her new job at the end of April. Since the office she will eventually be working from is directly across the street from where she had worked before, her commute will be cut in half from 4 miles to 2 miles, although for now, she works from home. Laughton's work team has been told by



Capital One that they will not be returning to the office before Labor Day. We continue our weekly dinners with Claudine & Laughton, usually at their house since it is easier than bringing the puppies over to ours. The dinners continue to be mostly take-out to keep local restaurants going. Both Claudine & Laughton are fully vaccinated. The trip to France that was planned for her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday is still on hold. Her airfare was refunded, however, vouchers were issued for hotels and transportation in France. No telling when they will be able to use them.

**Chris & Kristy:** Chris has cut back his hours at work a bit, so that he can pursue setting up a consulting / training side business that he plans to utilize the expertise he developed in the Python computer programming language. He has done some pro bono training to hone his teaching skills. He received a promotion at his paying job, however his department was broken up and team members were distributed to multiple departments. In his new position, he will focus more on data management, and less on web application development. Kristy continues to do well at her job. Both continue to work mainly from home. Both have been fully vaccinated. They did break with their previous extremely cautious ways, and had Mother's Day dinner with us at our home, (we ate on the deck). We even hugged when they left! On Fathers' Day, they joined us for a meal inside a restaurant! Today, as a group, we celebrated the July birthdays (Chris, Kristy & Danie) at a local restaurant.

**Me:** I coordinated the quarterly blood drives in December, March & June, as well as a special drive in January. All were highly successful, exceeding the collection goals for each drive. My K of C Council ran two Brunswick Stew sales (before Thanksgiving and the Superbowl) that were also very successful, allowing us to donate more to charities. We are making improvements to our Columbian Center to enhance the experience of hybrid meetings, with wall-mounted monitors, microphones, web cams and sound system integration so that meetings can be effectively experienced either in the meeting room, or remotely. We just had a Hawaiian Luau Christmas celebration at our Columbian Center at the end of June that drew 115 party-goers! I restarted the monthly Dominion Energy retirees breakfast meetings with an outdoor gatherings in March & April, but we returned to an indoor breakfast in May with a group of 23 as just about all of the retirees are fully vaccinated. We're expecting that the Funeral Meals ministry at St. Mikes will be restarting soon, as a number of delayed memorial services are being scheduled. I continue to volunteer at our St. Vincent de Paul pantry, which continues to be very busy.

Eric & Danie

7/28/2021

Dear Family,

June finished her 26<sup>th</sup> year teaching and is thinking about 1 or 2 more before semi-retirement. She'd like to be a paralegal! I'm looking at next April as an end date, so less than 9 months to go for me!

We took an early summer road trip to Maine for 6 nights spanning Kennebunkport, Booths Bay, and Acadia Natl. Park. In 2 weeks we will fly to San Francisco and do 10 nights in SF, NAPA, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite and Big Sur.

Nicole, Bill, Megan and Tom are all doing well and remain employed, with a mix of in-person and remote. Nicole and Megan are doing a trip to Puerto Rico, and aside from that things remain pretty much the same. (COVID) cases have just started to increase again in NY, so we will see what kind of Fall we are in for.

Every one stay safe --- Love to everyone!

Steve + June

We did have a VERY NICE 4<sup>th</sup> of July party at the upstate property, with all of Lorraine's family, Ken, Ray and a bunch of friends joining us. It was ~~was~~ a really great get-together as we have had so few over the last 16 months.

Dear Family,

8/7/2021

2-413

Well, the 3<sup>rd</sup> time was the charm! Although Kristen and Josh had gotten legally married on May 30, 2020 (at the height of the pandemic), they were finally able to recite their vows and celebrate with family and friends on May 7, 2021. We were very lucky that restrictions were curtailed somewhat just the week before their reception – although we were all “armed” with proof of either vaccinations or a negative Covid test. Everything went beautifully, and about 110 guests appeared to have a wonderful time. With Michelle as one of the bridesmaids, and Danny as a groomsman, our immediate family was totally involved. The only sad point for the evening was that Josh’s father, who has a chronic illness, had fallen and was in the hospital; he couldn’t attend in person, but a video of him sending his good wishes was played during the toast.

Although it wasn’t a last-minute surprise as with Josh’s father, we also missed not having Bill’s mother at the reception. I had written in the last RR that she was in rehab at Christmas, and we were looking into a permanent placement for her. She was transferred from rehab to assisted living at Dominican Village on December 28<sup>th</sup>. Even though both places were in quarantine, somewhere between the two of them she actually got Covid! She was transferred to the hospital and died there on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. We’re grateful that she didn’t appear to have suffered, as she mostly slept during her illness, but it’s still sad that she wasn’t able to see her granddaughter’s wedding because of the pandemic. (She was 92.)

A large part of our time from December till now has been spent cleaning out Bill’s parents’ house in Queens. A double-digit number of dumpsters came and went, and I have a folder of receipts from all the charities that received bags and bags of clothing from the 4 generations that lived in that house! There was no problem finding a buyer, and the closing is this week. Meanwhile Michelle continues to “attend” her day program totally on Zoom, but does get out for some activities with her community habilitation staff. Danny is still working virtually from his apt. in South Orange NJ. He took advantage of the lockdowns to finish a novel that he had been writing -- It’s called Castled, and can be found on Amazon under “Dan Zirkel”. If you look for it, you’ll also see the cover artwork, which was drawn by Joe Clines’ daughter Kira! The book was well-received by those who like the genre of supernatural thriller (yes – it’s scary!), and we’re very proud to have a “published” author in the family!

Now just as we were starting to open up and get back to enjoying each other in person again, more trouble looms in the form of the delta variant and renewed rise in Covid cases. The nursing home where I was a Eucharistic Minister was planning our coming back for Mass and communion distribution, but they just had two residents come down with Covid, and now are on lockdown again. We have so many problems in our country and in the world! We’re joining with all of you in praying for the general well-being of all, the particular health of those of you who are personally challenged, and a happy celebration for the next couples whose weddings are coming up (Emily & Andrew, Kaylin & Dustyn, Will & Alysha...anyone else?) We’re lucky that we have Theresa, Joannie and the other sisters praying for us, as well as the May Family members who have gone before us. Bill’s family has this as their “motto”, and it applies to us, also – “Family Is Forever”!



Bill Bern, Josh Kristen Michelle Danny

Love & Prayers,

Bernadette, Bill  
& all the Zirkels  
& Kirsches



Hi All,

I just got back from seeing the family and found the letter on my desk. The May family here is well. All sisters are well at the convent as well. Nothing really new to report so I'll let this Robin fly - Know that I pray daily for you all -

Love, Theresa + Joanne

DEAR FAMILY,

10/8/21

I WANT TO START BY OFFERING PRAYERS FOR AUNT CLAIRE. SHE WAS A WONDERFUL WOMAN AND LED A TREMENDOUS LIFE. NOW, THE SIBLINGS ARE ALL TOGETHER, ALONG WITH SPOUSES, PARENTS, SONS & DAUGHTERS.

THE CLINES FAMILY WAS FORTUNATE TO GET TOGETHER FOR THE WEDDING OF EMILY & ANDREW IN PENNSYLVANIA. THE VENUE WAS TERRIFIC, THE WEATHER DIVINE & WE WISH THEM MANY YEARS OF HAPPINESS.

I DO HAVE SOME NEWS OF MY OWN. I WILL BE LEAVING CBS NEWS AT THE END OF OCTOBER, AFTER 15 YEARS. IT'S SOMETHING I HAD THOUGHT ABOUT FOR SOME TIME. I HOPE TO TAKE A FEW MONTHS OFF BEFORE THINKING ABOUT WHAT I WANT TO DO WITH THE REST OF MY LIFE. MARY Jo WILL LIKELY RETIRE FROM TEACHING AT THE END OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR.

Love from HALVERNE,  
Joe Cline

10/20/21

Dear Family,

We deeply appreciate your prayers. As much as we miss Mon so much already, as Lorraine mentioned to some, we were overjoyed that her soul was set free to enjoy the reward she richly deserved. Memorial Mass will be Nov 13 at our church in Ellenville. A benefit of her 5 year stay with L was that she strengthened our family bonds in caring for her. I'll continue trying to hit the Farm every 3rd weekend or so to enjoy landscaping, gardening, burns, + maintenance. We installed a new porch deck, milled from our own trees. I helped with apple picking + pressing in October.

I will hit 60 2 days after the Memorial Mass and now consider myself semi-retired (still work full time hours). A good portion of my time goes to charities such as KotC (I created an online Thrift Shop) my college class, running club, Little Sisters. You should still refer business owners to me for website work at attractweb.com I've invested in crypto, started dancing with friends and prayed the Rosary more than ever before - for family and this broken world.

Love, Ray

My Dear Family

10/28/21 (2-415)

Aunt Claire was my rosary partner at 7<sup>30</sup> AM each morning on EWTV. She'd pray for me & I for her. I still think of her every time I tune in. She was a special aunt to me, so stylish & modern. I looked up to her & she did crafts with me when I was a kid. She was a wonderful woman.

A few weeks ago I got to see my sister Ronnie who looks wonderful - she gets prettier every visit. Since my doctor recommends I don't get the vaccine (I had a stroke after just 2 stents & could get a worse one possibly) I took a covid test & was negative I was able to hug my Veronica. That was the best part of my trip to NC. - Otherwise, we're all doing well, the grandkids are back in school & happy again. Love Madeline & Ralph  
P.S. Thank you for taking such good care of A. CLAIRE ♡

Dear Family,

26 November 2021

I'm glad to report that Aunt Claire's memorial mass and reception was a lovely gathering for all, as well as the perfect way to celebrate her life. All the Christensens were there, of course, as well as the cousins who lived close enough to attend: Alan and family, Tina and her husband, Joe Clines, Barbara, Bernadette and myself. Lots of smiles, a few tears, and lots of memories of our parents' generation, as we become the oldest generation in the family. Ray's eulogy and Lorraine's remarks were made with much love.

As Joe Clines wrote, my daughter Emily and fiancé Andrew were able to have their wedding in October 2021, postponed by 11 months. They are not the type of couple to demand perfection on their big day, and I'm not a momzilla either, but I was really happy that the day went so well for them. Despite the threat from the delta variant, all of the most important people were able to attend, including Grandma (Joe's mom, who is 89). No one got seriously lost finding the venue, which was out in the PA countryside, and had been chosen (and paid for) before the pandemic. The weather was perfect and that made the setting most enjoyable. Emily and Andrew have been through so much in the last couple of years: Andrew's father having a serious illness and then dying of Covid, Emily working in an ICU that became all-Covid, helping Andrew's mom clean out the family home and sell it, moving her close to them, etc. So, when their wedding day finally arrived, the guests were so happy for A&E and the mood was most joyous. Emily said that the day exceeded her expectations. Good thing she likes weddings, because I think she attended five between May and November, several of which were postponed from 2020.

(Most of) the Clines side of the family  
October 2021



Aside from gaining a new family member, things have not changed much otherwise in our family. Joe continues to spend one day a week with his mother, and we do Meals On Wheels twice a week. Our oldest son has a new job that he likes better than the old, but he still needs to find the perfect career job. Our younger son, Colin, had his doctoral candidacy exam right after Emily's wedding. He wants to be a chemist. He has passed the exam, provisionally, and has to submit a revised research proposal before he is officially accepted into the doctoral program. After that, it's smooth sailing, just a few years of original research. What could go wrong?

Good wishes for all to remain safe and healthy as we move through this holiday season. Can't believe it is almost Advent! Love to all,  
*Ellen*

6 Dec 2021 (St Nick)

Our last entry was at Easter, and we are now in Advent. The time in between has been anything but "ordinary".

In June, we learned that "Alysha said yes". After more than a few years, Will finally asked Alysha to marry him. No date is set: there's the pesky business of finishing up her doctoral work in the short term.

In July, Alan turned 65. After months of hearing Joe Nomath and others telling me about how great Medicare is and how much money I would save, I plowed through the information Deutsche Bank gave me as a retiree. Somehow, I'm not seeing the same results as Joe.

June through August, Gillian and Shannon looked in earnest for an apartment to share. It was time for them to strike out on their own. Well, they chose a place and the close was scheduled for Sept 1. That was also when we were all going up to Cape Cod for a few days of vacation (in lieu of the Poconos place we sold). So, they were going to close, then take their keys and jump in the car and head to the Cape. That was fine, except Hurricane Ida had the same idea. We all got to the Cape with surprisingly little trouble. However, all night we heard of floods in Yonkers (including the home attached to Will), along with collapsing retaining walls, and other horrors. We considered returning the next morning to see what damage we sustained. But we stuck it out, even tracking tornados a few miles away on the Cape in the wee hours of the morning. Will's home was not affected much, nor was our house (which frequently leaks water due to underground springs). And the girls' new place is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, so not too much of a worry. And while we were at the Cape, G got a call



from the principal of Sacred Heart offering her the job as teacher in PreK-4. Soon after, she bought her first car ('18 Subaru Impreza).

The girls' new apartment has been fixed up, completely repainted, and slowly (and tastefully) furnished. They are putting their personalities into their space. Now we have to decide what to do with the big house since we have joined the ranks of empty nesters.

As mentioned previously, St Mary's parish for which I work sold its unused church and rectory. That relieved me of much of my work. And I am miserable there for a number of reasons. So, I called the Arch and asked if they had another parish that needed my talents. This is a long, convoluted story - as most involving the Arch are - but bottom line is that top of their list was Good Shepherd in Inwood, Manhattan. Their pastor had just suffered a heart attack due partly to the stresses of dealing with the stuff that has nothing to do with his ministry (buildings, contracts, staff, etc.) BTW, it is a Capuchin parish, and the pastor is a long-time friend. So, we were both very happy to accommodate each other. I began on the feast of St Francis, spending 3 days there and 2 days at St Mary's each week. Just what my schizophrenia needs! And I underestimated the difference dealing with NYC vs. Mt Vernon. I'll let you know how this works out.

We celebrated Aunt Claire's life at Ellenville with many of the family. It was so good to see cousins after too long of a time. Aunt Claire is still gathering us together. I remember looking up to Uncle Charlie and others who taught us German songs at Miller Ave. He was much younger than I am now! It is scary to think that we cousins are the heads of this illustrious family.

Recently, we went out to the Island to visit with a group of friends from my college days. Most I had not seen in about a dozen years: some much longer. And yet, it was as if we had seen each other a month or two ago. It was so easy talking and catching up.

with love!  
Alex + Deanna, Will + Alysha, Gilbert + Susan  
12/15/21

Dear Family,

It amazes me how our family has grown and now we have another, dear Aunt Claire, who has passed on to help us on our 'life' road. I am now residing in Fla to be near the kids and grand. After only 2 months into the move I had the heart symptom again and a Cardiac Cath revealed another blockage - 3 more stents put in and now I have to (one for each of my kids lol) Dairy free now and watching my diet closely. I've become a frequent flyer with trips to NC + SC since Stephoni has moved to SC and got out of Seattle. Robert is home from Singapore this Christmas and we will be all together. I'm busy with the usual retired grandma chores, but will not give up my bowling -  
Be well all + Merry Christmas - Love Maria