

Molly Kaye: [00:00](#) Habits are who we are and we get to choose everyday who that is. What's remarkable about these women is that their habits are changing the world. Hi and welcome to habits, the good, the bad and the holy. I'm Molly and I'm sitting down every week with Adorers of the blood of Christ religious sisters to hear their stories and learn how habits have become more than a symbol for their vocation. They become the means to which they change the world. Hello and welcome back. Today we're here with sister Diana Rawlings. Diana, thank you so much for coming and joining us. It's a real pleasure to be here. I'm saying awesome. The first thing someone told me, you are a huge huskers fan. Go big red. Did you grow up in Nebraska or are you just a fan?

Diana Rawlings: [00:44](#) Uh, my hometown is Nebraska city, Nebraska. Small town south of Omaha. So you could say I was born and raised in Nebraska.

Molly Kaye: [00:53](#) I spent three years in Papillion so I know exactly where you're talking about. Lots of butterflies roaming through. Papillion is a great town. So did you grow up in a small family? Big Family?

Diana Rawlings: [01:06](#) Uh, my family, uh, included, uh, I have an older brother and I'm in middle child and my sister Cathy and mom and dad. So, uh, we did not own a farm. We didn't grow up on a farm, but my uncle had a farm, so we had plenty of opportunity, uh, to go out and spend weekends and help with the harvest and a lot of things. So that was, that was always fun. And football was a big part of growing up. Yes. On Saturdays in the fall, actually, they say that's the best time to go shopping in Omaha or Lincoln because everybody's at football games. So there's like 93,000 people that go to football games. So you've got the stores wide open for you,

Molly Kaye: [01:48](#) so you're a jokester. Um, that's well known. You're so gregarious, you're so fun to be around. And you have pulled quite a few pranks on your fellow sisters, one of which, uh, with some Korean sisters. Can you, can you tell us about that?

Diana Rawlings: [02:09](#) Oh, that was back when we were in formation and there were a sisters from South Korea

Molly Kaye: [02:14](#) and just a sister speak really quickly. Formation is the process to become a sister.

Diana Rawlings: [02:22](#) uh, in, in my class, uh, we, uh, Americans were teaching the Koreans some orchards and they were teaching us some words and we had this older sister who was deaf at the time, were

supposedly deaf. We also helped with the kitchen and cleaning the big pots and pans after a meal. So, um, this one sister always hounded us about being late, doing things and not cleaning properly. So we're doing the dishes and she brings him the big coffee pot and gave it to sister Columbia. Columbia gave it to me and she said, you know, sister brought it in again. And I said, well, did you tell her bug off? And Columbus said, well, no. What does bug off mean? I said, it means thank you. So then the next day, the same sister brings the coffee pot in and Columbia receives that very nicely and says bug off sister.

Diana Rawlings:

[03:22](#)

And of course the rest of the people that were helping them with dishes just crack them. Uh, so yes, I have been known to, you know, change wording a little bit. The other story, it wasn't really a jokester story, but it's about language. And I was helping one of the Korean sisters learn how to drive. So she's in the driver's part, we're in the car in the parking lot, we're backing out. Well, of course I didn't give her any directions. And so next thing I know, the passenger side of the car we were in is bumping into the car that's right next to us and the car is rising up. And I'm said, whoa. She didn't stop. She just kept on. I said, whoa. And saying, and I finally yelled, stop. Well, of course she doesn't know what whoa means. Only in the Midwest would, you know. Whoa. And they used to stop.

Molly Kaye:

[04:17](#)

So one of the, I think preconceived notions about being a sister is that it's very stoic and reserved. Um, but that is so obviously not true. If you've ever spent time with sisters and obviously you had a lot of fun, uh, you know, pranking your fellow sisters and, uh, can you talk a little bit about what's, what is it like spending your whole life, living in community with women and, and kind of the joys of, of what that you do not have enough time to hear that answer.

Diana Rawlings:

[04:54](#)

Uh, it's like any, it's like any relationship, you know, the ups and downs, learning about people. Um, I really was blessed growing up in a family that we're really pretty happy people, mom and Dad, uh, good Germans, they partied and when they party they'd party hardy. And when they fought, they fought hard and when they worked they worked hard.

Diana Rawlings:

[05:18](#)

So I think just growing up naturally, mom and dad teased a lot and that was a really good gift for me. Um, gosh, what some of the great joys about being in community. Again, being with people that are likeminded that you know, um, will have your back, they get it. Um, and of course you're closer to some people than others for lots of reasons. So it's knowing that there's a couple of people that are really good friends. And so if

you're having a hard time and thinking, I don't know man, I don't know if I can make it another day or another year. Uh, you've got people there that are, that are saying, hey, you know, give it some time, give it some time and you know, all the frustrations or just living with people. Um, big learning is there's more than one way to do something. It's really about learning how to let go of control.

Molly Kaye: [06:14](#) Yeah. I think that's a lesson across the board, uh, that we can teach is, you know, wherever you are, you know, there's more than one way to get there. Multiple ways that numbers can add up to being nine. Lots of ways you can live together or something.

Diana Rawlings: [06:30](#) And I think to the extent that a person can, can kind of grow into that, it's going to make life, you know, it's still, you're rotating at times, but at least it's like, okay, I, so she puts the civil war out this way and I put it out this way. Does it really matter?

Molly Kaye: [06:44](#) Right. So you were the first U.S. Vocations director and uh, for those who don't know, vocation's is, um, the department, what we call the department that works with women who are considering religious life or who are actively in the process of becoming a sister. Can you talk about what that was like being the first and what those experiences were? Um, you know, helping these women find their way to religious?

Diana Rawlings: [07:17](#) Well, it was a, it was just a great, great experience. Um, because I like, I love helping people and you know, we, I get ha I had the chance to talk with people about things that really mattered. Um, there was in back in 2000 when we decided as a group, the three groups to come together to form one United States region

Molly Kaye: [07:42](#) and a little background. So we used to have three provinces in the United States, three separate convents and in 2000 decided to join them together to have a central office in St Louis and three centers in Wichita, Ruma and Columbia Pennsylvania.

Diana Rawlings: [07:57](#) Yes. Before that happened, I was vocation director and I spent a month in each geographic area. So I would get to know the sisters and the ministry. So when there was someone interested in the community, I could say, well, you know, Columbia, we have a Saint Anne's a retirement center if you're interested in nursing or longterm care, we have prison ministry in the Columbia area. And so that, that really helped. It also gave me a great opportunity to get to know sisters in cross the geography. Um, there was so much energy about coming together. So the

brain child was to have a gathering of women in San Antonio, Texas for a weekend. So we got sisters. Uh, we probably had 60 women that were invited to come. Um, there was such fresh energy that I confident that that's what kept things moving, cause energy attracts energy and boy where we attracting a lot of energy. Um, so the vision, uh, while I was doing vocation work, uh, the typical way, which was directly asking a sister or a, a personal, a person, a woman, you know, well, do you think you want to be a sister? You know? Well, that is way too scary.

Molly Kaye: [09:25](#)

It's a big decision and I've heard many tales of people like actively throwing away pamphlets because the idea terrified them so much.

Diana Rawlings: [09:34](#)

Exactly. And we went to a number of typical gatherings of young adults, like everybody else, and we had our booth like everybody else and nobody came. Nobody came. So we got to think in what the heck's going on. And Man, it came to us. That is way too scary of a question. So we backed up, um, the leadership team at the time gave me permission to hire some consultants who all owned their own businesses. So they were looking at our life and how to do quote unquote recruitment, uh, through eyes that were different than mine. And they helped me understand that. That was way too fast of a question. Right? So the question became, you know, Molly, what do you think God wants you to do with your life? Have you ever thought maybe what you want, what God wants you to do with your life? Well, we'd asked that question and people like you just shaking your head yes. It's like, oh, I haven't thought about that. But you know, when my cannot, you know, I kind of think I want a family. You know, I kinda all my life kind of wanted a family. Good for you. That helps all of us clarify things, right? Um, if they talked about, you know, wanting to grow, deepen in their relationship with God, that's great. So that became our life choices program.

Molly Kaye: [11:00](#)

Yes. So, uh, for those of you who want to check out life choices on our website at adorers.org it's a great program. Um, if even in the secret part that you don't talk to anyone about, um, you're considering, you know, maybe I just want to check it out and see what it's about even, you know, just kind of get a sense of it. And life choices was your baby Diana it you came up with this. So I'm excited to hear what the creation of this was like.

Diana Rawlings: [11:27](#)

Yeah, well, um, it was exciting. It was hard work. Um, so we started with that notion of, okay, the question, well, it's all about building relationships. So, okay, now I've asked you, Molly, what do you think God wants you to do and how, um,

how are we gonna continue that relationship? How are we going to do it? Well, then we developed some tools with the consultants that help you look about your personality, your likes, your dislikes. Um, at the time the love languages was not popular, but you know, today we would incorporate some of the love languages, self understanding. Um, once you agreed to work through some of those worksheets and, and open up a little bit, we're beginning to get a relationship so then we can get a little bit more intimate by then finally saying, well, you know, maybe have you thought about religious life, then it's not so scary because we've got a relationship and you know more about yourself.

Diana Rawlings:

[12:32](#)

Right? Um, sister Rita shilling and Lori Benghe, were the key people with me doing this. Um, really I think we helped more men and women get into other communities than our own. And that's okay because our belief based, well, my belief based on my personal experience was I felt called to be a sister and I didn't know where to go. A lot of people have a community in mind and then they confirm it that way. They knew somebody, but I, I only knew one group of people and I knew somehow, instinctively that was not for me. So, uh, that became a great contribution to the universal church. Um, and we helped him in because at that moment in time, it was on the website materials were out. And so we helped men discern into different religious communities, diocesan communities

Molly Kaye:

[13:34](#)

that I think that's an interesting, and you touched on something that I think a lot of people have questions about, which is, you know, how do you end up in the order that you ended up in? Because, um, you know, each order has its own heartbeat. It has its own charism or mission. Um, how did you, you know, begin to think maybe religious life is for me? And then you said, um, you know, the one community you knew just wasn't the right fit for you. How did you find what was the right fit for you? So I know that was two prompt questions.

Diana Rawlings:

[14:10](#)

That's okay. Um, how do you know that the person that you're dating right now is a person that you really want date? So when people ask me that question, I ask them right back. When you have a really good friend, how do you know that that's a really good friend? It's complicated, right? It's about the relationship. It's about, do I feel mutual? Do I feel like I'm growing as a person emotionally, intellectually, spiritually, physically? Um, is there some kind of quote chemistry? Somehow we just kind of jive. So all of those descriptions would fit when a person is kind of sorting out a community. Um, it, it's what the mission of that particular community is. The one in my life and my early life, the

Ursuline sisters, while they were all teachers and I kind of didn't want to be a teacher.

Diana Rawlings: [15:13](#)

Uh, I ended up teaching for a while. But if you take teaching out of the class, if you take the concept of teaching out of the classroom, then I was teaching all the time. Right. Um, so I knew that wasn't quite yet. The, uh, and, and the precious blood sisters I didn't ever know, but the precious led fathers or in my parish. So the connection with the charism was there before I even had words to articulate it. Right. And I think some people don't really understand the connection between adores or assays and the precious blood community. Can you talk a little bit about the connection between, okay. The men's group, the Missionaries of the most precious blood, their founder Gasper, Dale Buffalo, um, he, he, one of the men, uh, John Merlini became, uh, the, in those days, in eight, in the early 18 hundreds, they would do talks in parishes and our founders, Maria de Mattias was a girl, a young girl. Was that one of those parishes and heard John Merlini speak, and she was moved to the connection of the lamb who was slain for our sins. The incredible love that God has for us. So through the direction of John Merlini, he helped Maria start our community. Maria felt called to start with the, uh, women who wanted to have a devotion to the precious blood, wanted to be of service, uh, and he helped her through the obstacles of getting that to happen.

Molly Kaye: [16:58](#)

Hey, everyone. Molly here. I wanted to clarify just one thing. When Maria de Mattias was founding the adorers, she heard Gaspar de Buffalo preach mission, not John Merlini. However Gaspar did ask Merlini to accompany Maria in her founding journey. Okay. Now back to the interview.

Molly Kaye: [17:16](#)

And so I've had a lot of, uh, different varied reactions when I tell people that I work for the adorers of the blood of Christ or when I talk about precious blood ministry because of connotations with those words. And, um, I have to laugh now because I can almost, uh, anticipate a reaction of, uh, they'll pull a face because it is kind of an odd phrasing. I'd love to dive a little deeper because I spent so much time learning about at this community. Can you explain please? Uh, what, why, why do we keep talking about blood? What is up with this precious blood? Explain to people what it means. Uh, cause I think it'll explain the name of it.

Diana Rawlings: [18:00](#)

Okay. Well the first thing is I want you to reflect on what is the single thing in your body that's keeping you alive and you're shaking your head yes. So what is it? Your blood, right? Blood is life, right? Um, so you can go all the way back to the old

testament and this, that's all that the people knew at the time was to sacrifice the animals, give the blood offering. Right? And then of course, quickly moves into the shedding of Jesus's blood. Right? Um, does it matter you, you can cut your skin. Anybody's color, anybody's ethnicity, everybody bleeds red. Yes, we are all connected. And what our community does is try to remind the world and give witness to God's unconditional love and that all our valuable, all our welcome beyond anything that any buddy could do, thinking that God would stop loving them. Right. Um, so our message, I know, and, and it is startling and that also is helpful for us in kind of a backward way because there's so much violence associated with blood. So then we can speak to the violence, we can speak, why are you shedding through terrorism, that person's blood, who that person is a child of God, whether they're Muslim or Hindu. That's, that's not what God is concerned about. Right? Yeah.

Molly Kaye: [19:49](#) Touch on that because I think it is something that's, uh, really often misunderstood about, um, you know, precious blood spirituality or adoration of the blood of Christ is this idea that there's somehow kind of like a weirdness with the phrase. And I love that you talked about that. It's a, it's the interconnectedness of all human life that really is the foundation of that name. So you talked a little bit about, um, that you did end up teaching for some years. So you've been a vocation director and you were a teacher for awhile. What else have you done through your years as an ASC?

Diana Rawlings: [20:26](#) Well, um, I got to have a summer. I, I spent a summer as an intern in Oklahoma City and have the sooner Catholic newspaper because I had asked the elite, the community, the leadership if I could get a go to school and get a higher go to college and go to get my masters. And they weren't, sure if I should do it in communications or whatever, I was mad at the time that they told me no, it was the best decision. However, because it was wonderful that year, that summer. But I knew clearly I didn't want newspaper. Okay. Right. So that was very good.

Molly Kaye: [21:07](#) And this is really a stellar example of taking the time to discern and find out what works best for you. So I love that there's an example of that and that you did speak to the fact that you were frustrated at the beginning but found later that you really didn't want to be working in news.

Diana Rawlings: [21:25](#) But I really liked communications. So the community, this community for me has been very forward thinking. So there was a program in Barry University in Miami, Florida on

telecommunications. So I went there and got my masters in telecommunications and I worked at the archdiocese of Omaha, archdiocese of Omaha, Nebraska doing a video work. One. One side story on that is bishop gumball. Titan is a very profound speaker against nuclear weapons and buildup, well, Omaha, Nebraska has offered air force space, so there was going to be a big, he, they, the people brought in, Bishop Campbell and I had a big talk going on. We videotaped all that and then he was gonna, they were gonna do a march out at, off at air force base. So father Mel Rampy was the director of communications at the time. And so I loaded up the little van with the camera equipment and you know, nothing like today with the little thing with the little microphones, it was mixed up anyway, so you want send me out to the car and he says, Okay Diana, he says, now, you know, I, if you get out there and I could really respect this, if you had out there and you get caught up in the moment and you feel like you're called to cross the line, I will respect that for God's sakes. Leave the equipment on the other side so you can go for it to stay here. I said, Okay Mel, I'll do that. Well, you know, I did it cross the line, but it was very, it was very emotional, very professional. So that was, it was about telling stories. We had the program was called Real r e a l two reel r e e l. And it was, it was great. We just talked to normal people do a normal thing. So, um, teaching video work, uh, newspaper work. I was on leadership team.

Molly Kaye: [23:25](#)

And what position did you hold in leadership?

Diana Rawlings: [23:27](#)

I was a counselor, a provincial counselor.

Molly Kaye: [23:29](#)

So you walk with the sisters, um, through their ups and downs in life and helping them through schools.

Diana Rawlings: [23:36](#)

I mean, if they were gonna make a decision to go to school, health decisions, whether they should leave the community or not, leave the community. Uh, some administrative work along with that. Um, when I turned 40, I was really having a crises midlife crisis. I was in leadership and honestly it was, should I have a baby? Should I plant a tree? I need something. We call it generativity, leaving a legacy. Most people that get married and you have your kids, I assume you know, the order probably would have preferred the tree.

Diana Rawlings: [24:10](#)

So I'm with my leadership team and I said, I'm really going through it and a hard time planetary have a baby. Well, the oldest person on that leadership team who at that time was wearing the traditional habit and veil, right? Who usually did not traditionally wear anymore, who you would never in a



million years think would say this. I said, you probably have more fun making a baby, but a tree is probably smarter. Well, maybe I was wrong. Maybe they would have been. No, no. So my friends bought me a tree and we had a nice little free blessing ceremony, planted the tree. And I said I want a tree. So when I'm old in a wheelchair I can be pushed under it and sit in the shade of the tree. And it's up here on the far field. Well, uh, yeah I mean in general or because I planted the tree. Well your, your it did, it did. And coming from Nebraska, that's kind of Arbor Day. Yes it is. Cause we got a tree in fourth grade when I lived here. So that was, you know, that was all part of the tree planting too. But yeah, I mean that was, that was good. So anyway, that's a love that have a baby plant a tree. Then I uh, did vocation work for the community. And then I did grant writing at one of our sponsored ministries called win women's initiative network.

Molly Kaye:

[25:45](#)

Can you talk about some of the, um, the programs that we, we cause this ministry still exist. We still do great work in the community with it. Um, what, what are these women, um, helped through? What programs, what assistance do they receive? Um, how do we really walk with them through this process? Because, um, you know, breaking the cycle of abuse is an incredibly difficult process, especially if you are, um, raised in it and know only that to it's, it's so scary to break out of that. So talk about kind of what, what assistance provide it's provided you though.

Diana Rawlings:

[26:21](#)

Well, the first thing that we found at when found was the lack of education. Part of why the women don't leave the abuser is because they don't have an education. They don't have a driver's license, they can't get a job. What are they going do with their kids? All of really stuck, really stuck. So one of the basic things is to help the women get the education. So many people did not have their high school diploma. You can't hardly even work at McDonald's without that. So that was always our number one. And the, the two prong approach where we ran was the education piece to get ahead. And then we paid them, uh, to, to work there at when and they worked on a variety of projects through the years. Uh, but they get paid. So now they have some education going and now they've got some money.

Diana Rawlings:

[27:21](#)

Now we can help them learn how to save. We can help them network and get a house that they can afford. Um, we can help them get a car. We can help them pay off their depths, you know, lots of things to get them beyond where they were stuck. Can you, I know you have a ton of stories, you know, of the women there, um, that have impacted your life.

- Molly Kaye: [27:46](#) Do you have one that sticks out in your time that you've spent, you know, working with that organization?
- Diana Rawlings: [27:51](#) The person that comes to mind right away, and I'm not gonna use her real name, I'm going to call her Lucy. Um, Lucy came to us, uh, beaten up and she was so badly beaten that she lost the baby that she was carrying. My God, she had three kids. This was a fourth one. Um, she had no education, nothing.
- Diana Rawlings: [28:13](#) So she was highly motivated. Lucy and she worked the program. She went to school. She, uh, got what she needed in terms of a high school diploma. She wanted to do hair. So she became a cosmetologist, got her license for that, graduated from the program. Um, lived as a single parent taking care of these three kids for a long time. Met up with the nicest man ever. Larry, I'm going to call him Larry. They dated, they got married, they had a child, she owns her own hair salon in here in town. Lovely family. Her all, let's see, she's got three kids. Two of them are graduating from high school. I mean, it's really a great success story. And of course she, Lucy has this passion for the same thing and she's helping people and you know, making, helping them make better choices.
- Molly Kaye: [29:07](#) So she's really giving back it winds up being in a new cycle you've created.
- Diana Rawlings: [29:10](#) And it doesn't just impact the woman, but look at her kids, her three kids, and they went to counseling. You know, uh, Lucy struggled with, again trying to find resources, but the kids needed that. Their dad went to prison and he got out and one of the kids really wanted to see the dad. And so there was a real struggle for Lucy. But Lucy let the daughter go see the dad. Well, pretty soon the dad's back to, he can't be counted on just like before, but the daughter had to find that out herself. Right. Um, but her, all his lives have been impacted. So you've got that family of four got, got married and had another baby. So you got a little village in and of itself
- Molly Kaye: [29:58](#) and every person that she obviously helps now with her new gifts that will continue. I think it's a profound, uh, new cycle. You all are creating. I'm with when and like I said, when is one of my favorite sponsor ministers that we have. So that was incredible. Um, so right now you are on the community life team at the Wichita Center. Uh, what does that entail? Cause I know, um, each center has a group of liaisons of sorts, um, called the community life team. And you are on that committee. What does that like?

- Diana Rawlings: [30:34](#) Well, my number one responsibility is making sure that there is chocolate on Sunday for the sisters.
- Molly Kaye: [30:42](#) The most important task.
- Diana Rawlings: [30:44](#) And I know we laugh about that, but honestly if it, if it's not out on Sundays, you know, somebody will come and say something now, I don't want they way their birds our chocolate. Um, it's a, it's what I did as a counselor in leadership. It's walking with the sisters. It just so happens here. Uh, we are more of an aging population. We are aging in place. So day after day, it's being open to, if somebody has heart problem unexpectedly, you take him to the hospital, you're with them. Um, if they're upset because they're losing their hearing and they can't understand what's going on, you're with them through that. Um, that's a key thing. Um, just listening to them, trying to help them articulate what their needs are, what they'd like to have happen, and then to try to make that happen. Right. Um, that can be as simple as, uh, ranging, uh, to go to Brahms though. That's the favorite ice cream hangout place in Wichita, just to take a little trip out because I can't drive anymore. Uh, and they haven't been out of the house for, I mean, they've been out walking, but they haven't left the property for a while. So just to be out and see things,
- Molly Kaye: [32:05](#) just something really cool has happened at the Wichita Center or the past year. Um, you're babysitting more than you, uh, have been in the past couple of years.
- Diana Rawlings: [32:20](#) Uh, can you, can you to, why? Well, we have actually truly, uh, the range of people that we have in this building. The oldest sister is 102, and the youngest person is about six weeks old, um, through sister Joanne, mark, uh, one of the sisters who's very involved in social justice, she responded to a request, um, from an organization of all the sisters in the United States. If we had, if any conduct had any room for people who are seeking asylum, right. They come to the states, they get their document, but they can't go and they don't know where to go until they get a court date that says, yes, you have a cause to stay or you have to go back to your country. So we talk, a group of us talk here at the house, uh, led by Joanne. We talked to our leadership group and you know, there was, this is what we're called to, we had space, a whole wing empty. So we had space. There was a need. Uh, it's in the Gospel. It's what Maria does. Helping the least of the people.
- Diana Rawlings: [33:35](#) just want to clarify, clarify that. Yeah. So when we made the decision, you know, we looked at everything, the possibilities

and why wouldn't we open our space. So one family came and a wife was left behind, separated with three kids. We didn't know if she was even alive. So that worked out through international Red Cross. They got reunited, they found work up in des Moines, Iowa and the whole family moved to des Moines before Christmas. In the meantime, we've had four more families come. Um, so, um, it has brought so much life yeah. To the sisters and literal life very recently because, uh, I mean you can tell the story cause you were here and I wasn't, but yeah, life showed up very quickly here. We got a phone call that there was a family at the bus station, uh, that needed to come. Well, this is not how the process works. Okay. The process is they call you from Texas and you agree and then you meet somebody. Anyway, they, they're, they're so Joanne and sister Fran, and some of us are thinking, okay, well what can we do with, what will it be we going to do? Well, the Gospel Reading for that very day was whatever you do to the least of my people you do to me.

Molly Kaye: [35:01](#)

And that is Matthew. For any of you who want a Google it.,

Diana Rawlings: [35:04](#)

Talk about being convicted by the Gospel missed sometimes that sometimes the lord speaks to more literally. So we went down and found out that it was a husband, three kids, his wife who told us that she was going to deliver her baby in two weeks. Holy Macaroni. So then the next morning the group gets together and we're talking, okay, well we got two weeks so we're going to need a little bad. We're gonna need this, we're gonna need that. Okay, we got two weeks. And I said no wait. Okay. Just in case she happens to live or in the middle of the night and I'm going to be one of the people go on, I'll want to know what's happening. Right. So we talked through the hospital, go to and what to do and what to do. Honest to God, that was at 10 30 in the morning by 1130 that night I was called because she was having incredible contractions. We checked with our, our staffing nurse and she said, yeah, I think you ought to take her in to the hospital.

Diana Rawlings: [36:10](#)

So we had prepared a wheelchair. That's all we took her in. And one 30 morning she delivered this great new baby little girl. And she is an American citizen. Yes. Cause she was born in the United States. Right. So that's really funny. Like you mentioned, there's a hundred, 102 year old hanging out here and a little newborn. Um, what is it like having, you've got a wide range. You got infants, obviously toddlers and grade school children here now. Yes. The oldest one is 11 years old. So, um, yeah, that's quite a range of people. It really is helpful when the parents are there because it's a unit that you're kind of working

with. Um, we have sisters. It takes a village and that means that everybody helps however they can. Some sisters, all they do is just give hugs when they see the kids coming in the dining room, which is great hugs before, after and because they eat with you all.

Diana Rawlings: [37:13](#)

Yes. It come down to our dining room. Um, some sisters said that they could tutor in math, especially, um, doing, helping them with homework. Um, some sisters, uh, help them get registered to school, make sure they get to the bus on time. Some sisters, uh, take people to pay, take the adults to appointments. Um, when the kids have an evening program at school, we sign up. And so we're the grandmothers and great grandmothers and great aunts, cheer squad. And I do want to say, you know, it's not just the children that you're impacting. The adults are also getting support an aid as well. Yes. Uh, mostly it's legal, uh, helping with them, filling out the forms. They're here legally. They're just really in limbo and until they get their official work permit, they cannot work legally. Yeah. I mean it's been a whirlwind. It's kind of seven months of, of hosting asylum seekers.

Molly Kaye: [38:18](#)

What, what has surprised you most about this new venture that the ASC is, or going on? Maybe. Maybe something that surprised me in a positive way with the sisters. I guess surprises and I have to be bad, but anyway, what surprised me with the sisters? How giving

Diana Rawlings: [38:36](#)

they were, I mean, they offered everything they could. What do you need? What do you need? What do you need? You know, I can help tutor, I can do this. I can do that. Yeah. I think it is an incredible showing of, you know, we always talk about how many different things all of you have done so many careers, so many life paths, and they really all come together to help these families, which is, which is a, a great gift. Uh, like you said, I think it does take a village. I think this is a cool side of it.

Molly Kaye: [39:07](#)

Um, so the one question we ask everyone that comes on the podcast is obviously habits is the namesake of this podcast. What is your best habit?

Diana Rawlings: [39:19](#)

Okay. Probably a habit that I do. I'm really close with my sister Cathy. And uh, probably a habit would be we talk on the phone almost every day, sometimes a couple times a day. Yeah. Um, you know, she's funny, her family is funny. Uh, sometimes they're in crises and sometimes my family is funny here, the sisters and sometimes we're in crises. So I would say probably a

habit would be that I check in with her quite a bit and that fills up my cup.

Molly Kaye: [39:53](#)

And what is your worst habit?

Diana Rawlings: [39:55](#)

Binge watching.

Molly Kaye: [39:57](#)

What is your favorite show that you are binge watching right now?

Diana Rawlings: [40:01](#)

Killing Eve. Oh my goodness. With Sandra. Oh yes. Do you love it? I love it. It's on my list. I'll have to have to, you haven't seen it. Haven't seen it. It's got a little bit of dark humor. I mean, yeah, it's, it usually isn't funny. Shouldn't that shouldn't be funny, but it's funny. I'm going to have to add it to my list. You if I started that.

Molly Kaye: [40:27](#)

Enough of it. So that's, that's why I haven't, I had so much fun talking to. I always do this. I was so glad to get you on the podcast. Um, I know we'll have you back cause you've got so many more stories to pump, but thank you for letting me pick your brain. It's been an absolute joy.

Diana Rawlings: [40:44](#)

It's been a great time for me to Molly. Thanks.

Molly Kaye: [40:47](#)

Thanks for joining us for show notes and behind the scenes check out. Our website [adores.org](#) habits is brought to you by the adorers of the blood of Christ us region, co-produced by Cheryl Whittenauer, our Laurie Bengé, and Molly McKinstry edited by Molly McKinstry. Thanks. We'll see you all next week.