

## **Salutatorian Speech**

### **Sophia Pertez**

Father Eurel, Dr. Newcomb, Mrs. Rice, teachers, staff, special guests, parents, friends, fellow graduates, and students, good morning to all of you on this special day of being grateful.

Not everyday of our lives, we are given the opportunity to thank all the people who have, in different manner, touched our lives. Hence, it is an honor to speak to you on this special occasion.

St. Theresa has given me such a great classical education that cannot be found anywhere else. Learning deeper in the Catholic faith, boggling our minds in logic, poetry in a higher level, advanced Mathematics, two foreign languages, exceptional music program, broadening our horizons in essays, are some of the extraordinary knowledge which developed me into a student equipped to face the future. The school's motto and the values that I had lived on had made me a well-rounded person.

I will be forever grateful to the wonderful teachers and staff members of this school. Each one of you have your own unique approach in teaching, some are soft, some are strict, some are just light, some has lot of stories to tell, some were scary at first but later found out to be humorous, some are serious, some loves to tell jokes, which moulded me in the way that I should be. Each one of you have supported me, trusted me, and have imparted important knowledge that no other schools would offer in such advantage. I am armed to move on and to take on whatever challenges come next in my life.

Not only have my teachers aided in making St. Theresa a great experience but also my dear classmates and fellow students. Since my first day at St. Theresa and until today, great and unforgettable memories have been created. The way we supported and helped each other get through each school day would always be remembered. I will forever cherish even the simplest moment with you.

Special mention and gratitude to my amazing family. My parents, especially, who have had tremendous sacrifices for my sake and had even made challenges that may seem impossible become achievable. Thank you for always reminding me not to sleep late for it would affect my voice. Kidding aside, "Thank you" is not enough for your love and support, for if not because of you, I would not be who I am today.

Most importantly, I thank and praise God for the innumerable blessings He is continuously showering on me. Being in a Catholic environment, my relationship with God got stronger that I will carry with me as I continue with this journey.

I will direct this paragraph in my speech towards my fellow graduates and students who are present today. During my eight years stay at St. Theresa, I would consider myself as one of the busiest children in these world with all the academic and non-academic activities that I am and had been involved to. Various kinds of people come and go in our lives who guide and inspire us. The imprints they have left on us, whether small or big, would be our stepping stone

to achieve our dreams. I will leave to you this verse from 1 Thesalosians 5:18, “In all things, give thanks”.

Now that my eight years at St. Theresa have concluded, it is my hope that I have been instrumental to its progress, and that someday when someone asked me what school I came from, I could proudly respond to a manner that St. Theresa could be proud of me.