

Speech for Nursing Ceremony

Welcome to Marian University of Ancilla College. My name is Chinita Dillard and it's a privilege to stand here in front of you on behalf of my class. First, I would like to thank the administration, faculty, family and friends. It seems unreal to be standing here. Even though from the first day of class we have imagine being right here today. My imagination couldn't have prepared me for this feeling of accomplishment. I once read a quote that said "A definition of a nurse is to go above and beyond the call of duty. The first to work and the last to leave. The heart and soul of caring. A unique soul who will pass through your life for a minute and impact it for an eternity. An empowered individual whom you may meet only for a 12-hour period, but who will put you and yours above theirs." Becoming a nurse is much more than a career choice. It becomes your life and you will always be upheld to a higher level of expectations. You must be cognitive of your boundaries and selfcare in order to protect yourself from burn out. As we all know, mental health is a component of our job. You will not only be responsible for saving lives but advocacy is a big part of nursing. In nursing there will be some losses. However, use these losses as a reminder of our sacred work. This group of ladies before you may be small and words can't explain what we have been through to make it this far. The work put into being here today was the biggest fight of our journey. On this journey has been many tears. Tears of loss, relief, and finally tears of joy. If I can give two words of encouragement to future students on their journey, it would be perseverance and resiliency. These two things and a lot of prayer did not allow us to give up on our dream. To our family, friends, and professors. Thank you for believing in us. All the kind words and encouragement didn't fall on deaf ears. We just didn't believe you guys. Ladies we made it, through a pandemic, sleepless nights, and long drives for some. We are here! We thought we wouldn't make it. The journey was hard and life changing but look at us now. We can now prepare to end this journey by leaving here, taking all that we have learned and passing Nclex. Thank you

Chinita Dillard

ASN Graduate

Class of May 2022