

SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Reverend Dr. Steven P. Zorzos, Presiding Priest l Reverend Dimitrios J. Lee, Assistant Priest Reverend Dr. John T. Tavlarides, Presiding Priest Emeritus



EXCUSED ABSENCE LETTER DUE TO EASTERN ORTHODOX GOOD FRIDAY OBSERVANCE

April 1, 2018

To: All Teachers and School Administrators

From: Reverend Dr. Steven P. Zorzos

To Whom It May Concern,

The Eastern Orthodox Church quite often celebrates Easter on a different Sunday than do the Western Churches. This celebration can fall one week, or even several weeks, afterwards.

Of course, this necessarily means our Good Friday is also celebrated on a different date. For example, for the present ecclesiastical year of 2018, Eastern Orthodox Good Friday falls on Friday, April 6. Naturally, this means that this year's date for Eastern Orthodox Easter is Sunday, April 8.

In our religious tradition Good Friday is a day that all Orthodox Christians are obligated to attend church services that begin in the morning, extend throughout the afternoon and continue into the evening.

We therefore request you excuse the absence of the Orthodox Christian student that attends your school, and bears this letter, for this Eastern Orthodox Good Friday, April 6, 2018.

Thank you for your understanding.

Most respectfully,

Reverend Steven P. Zorzos, Presiding Priest Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral