EXCUSED ABSENCE LETTER DUE TO EASTERN ORTHODOX HOLY WEEK 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 Holy Week is also often celebrated on different dates. For example, for the present ecclesiastical year of 2018, Eastern Orthodox Holy Week falls from Monday, April 2, to Easter Sunday, April 8.

In our religious tradition Holy Week is a sacred time that all Orthodox Christians are obligated to attend church services in the morning, afternoon and evening.

We therefore request you excuse the absence from sports obligations of the Orthodox Christian student that attends your school, and bears this letter, for the duration of this Holy Week period of April 2 – 8.

Thank you for your understanding.

Most respectfully,

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