



SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

THE REVEREND STEVEN P. ZORZOS, D. MIN., PROTOPRESBYTER & PRESIDING PRIEST
THE REVEREND GREGORY GATANAS, M. DIV., PRESBYTER & ASSISTANT PRIEST



CHRIST, THE HOLY
WISDOM OF GOD

March 17, 2026

EXCUSED ABSENCE LETTER DUE TO EASTERN ORTHODOX GOOD FRIDAY OBSERVANCE

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 2026, Eastern Orthodox Good Friday falls on Friday, April 10, 2026. Naturally, this means that this year's date for Eastern Orthodox Easter is Sunday, April 12, 2026.

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 respectfully 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 10, 2026.

Thank you for your understanding.

Most gratefully,

Reverend Steven P. Zorzos, DMin.
Presiding Priest, Saint Sophia Cathedral