



# 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 HOLY WEEK 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 Holy Week is also often celebrated on different dates. For example, for the present ecclesiastical year of 2026, Eastern Orthodox Holy Week falls from Monday, April 6, to Easter Sunday, April 12.

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 respectfully 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 6 –12, 2026.

Thank you for your understanding.

Most gratefully,

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