



# ST. ATHANASIOUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

300 Sumida Gardens Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 • Phone: 805-685-5400 • [www.stathanasius.org](http://www.stathanasius.org)

## Student Excuse for Holy Week Religious Services

April 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

We ask that you excuse \_\_\_\_\_ from school for Church service attendance on Thursday, May 2 and Friday, May 3 when all Orthodox Christians celebrate the Holy and Great days of our Lord's Passion and Crucifixion, the most solemn days of our religious year.

Orthodox Christians are expected to set aside all their worldly activities particularly on these two Holy Days so that they can spend the day in worship, fasting, and contemplation of these acts that our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished for the sake of our salvation.

We pray and hope you will afford this student the opportunity to participate in this important religious activity by considering these days as excused days of absence and by facilitating make-up of any missed tests or other class work.

Thank you for your support in strengthening this student's grounding in their Faith and religious practice. The Pastor is also happy to sign any form required to confirm this student's participation in the services on these days. Please contact him for such confirmation or for any questions at [frsymeon@stathanasius.org](mailto:frsymeon@stathanasius.org) or at 805-685-5495.

With love in Christ,

*Fr. Symeon Halsell*

Rev. Symeon Halsell  
Pastor & Priest

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Parent or Guardian