

Earlier schedules for evening services during Holy & Great Easter Week finalized



Easter Holy Week and Easter Sunday will be observed and celebrated in Greece under specific, albeit loosened, public health restrictions due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

By all accounts, a compromise was reached between the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece and the country's government, whereby Holy Easter Week services will end earlier in the evening; a ceiling will remain on the number of worshippers allowed within churches and chapels, and with unnecessary travel to the provinces still prohibited.

Nevertheless, the Holy Association of Clerics in Greece issued a statement referring to an "...uneducated intervention by the state on issues that are exclusively ecclesiastical."

Specifically, the Association criticized a decision to hold the splendid Resurrection service of Holy Saturday earlier than the traditional midnight hour.

In a related development, the Church of Crete's Metropolitan of Kisamos and Selino, His Eminence Amfilochios, explained the Cretan Church's disappointment with measures affecting Holy Easter Week services. He nevertheless noted that

“...the Church does not legislate; the Church submits its proposals.”