



## GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

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TO: All Clergy of the Direct Archdiocesan District

FROM: Bishop Andonios, Chancellor

DATE: February 12, 2010

RE: Holy Communion and Holy Week

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Dear Brothers-in-Christ,

Since we are embarking on Great and Holy Lent, I wanted to ask that when preparing your Holy Week Schedule for distribution to your communicants that you be sure to refrain from including any designated time (outside of a liturgy) when Holy Communion will be distributed. I know this practice (distributing communion before or after Liturgy on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday mornings) was more widespread in the past and am so glad to see that one by one our clergy have discontinued this unfortunate practice. The time has come to assure that it does not occur in ANY of our communities, hence this directive.

There are certainly more than enough opportunities (Palm Sunday, Presanctified Liturgy, Holy Thursday and Saturday Mornings, as well as the Resurrection Service/Liturgy) for our faithful to afford themselves the occasion to PARTICIPATE in a service AND TO COMMUNE the Holy Mysteries. Therefore, I trust that all of the brothers will abide by this request so that I am not placed in the difficult position of having no option but to act as a consequence of a brother's disregard of this request.

Kali Dynamis kai Kali Tessarakosti!

*Bishop Andonios*