

On Sept. 6, Msgr. John Urell entered the medical facility Southdown Institute in Canada following the orders of his medical physician. He suffers from an acute anxiety disorder caused by the strain of his prior responsibility for responding to complaints of sexual abuse by others.

Msgr. Urell has never sexually abused anyone, and he has never been accused of sexually abusing anyone. His treatment at Southdown is specifically related to acute anxiety. In no way is his stay related to pedophilia, and for anyone to imply such is being irresponsible and untruthful.

Msgr. Urell's physicians have determined that he is unable to finish his testimony as a witness in the case involving the former Mater Dei coach. Msgr. Urell is not accused of any wrongdoing in this case.

His primary focus now is to heal and make himself well so he may continue to do what he loves: minister to his parishioners at St. Norbert Church.

Msgr. Urell's compassion and concern for all who have been devastated by clergy sexual abuse has been evident in his ministry.

Note to editors/reporters: The medical declaration by Msgr. Urell's physician is available for viewing. Mr. Hennessey is available for interviews today.