

## HUC to Confer Honorary Degree during 307<sup>th</sup> Theology Convocation

**London, ON -** The 2015 Huron University College Theology Convocation will take place on Thursday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kingsmill Room. This year's Theological Section marks the 307<sup>th</sup> Convocation of Western University for the conferring of the degrees of Master of Divinity, Master of Theological Studies and Master of Arts (Theology).

Huron University College will also confer the Doctor of Divinity Degree (*jure dignitatis*) on Archbishop Colin Johnson and Bishop Robert Stuart Skirving.

Archbishop Johnson is the Diocesan Bishop of Toronto and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. He is the chief pastor of the Diocese, with pastoral oversight of 202 parishes.

Bishop Skirving is the Eighth Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, a diocese which stretches across the eastern third of the state of North Carolina and includes nearly 70 congregations located in cities, beach communities, and small town and rural settings. There is a strong military presence in the diocese and a growing Latino/Hispanic population.

The day will include several significant events: Eucharist at 4:30 p.m. at The Collegiate Chapel of St. John the Evangelist; light buffet reception and bar at 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall; followed by Convocation at 7:00 p.m. in the Kingsmill Room. Following Convocation, a reception will be held in the Great Hall to honour our graduates and honorary degree recipients.

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

## Archbishop Colin Johnson

Archbishop Johnson was elected suffragan bishop on April 23, 2003 and was consecrated on June 21, 2003. He served as the area bishop of Trent-Durham until February 2006. He was elected Diocesan Bishop on June 12, 2004, and installed as the 11<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Toronto on Sept. 12, 2004.

On Oct. 15, 2009, he was elected Metropolitan (senior bishop) of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. With a reorganization of the Diocese of Moosonee, in Northern Ontario and Quebec, Archbishop Johnson, as Metropolitan, also became the Bishop of Moosonee on January 1, 2014.

## **Bishop Robert Stuart Skirving**

Bishop Skirving earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of Waterloo in 1982, and a Master of Divinity degree from Huron University College in 1986. While at Huron, Rob completed four units of Clinical Pastoral Education at University Hospital and a 2-year field placement at St. George's Anglican Church, both in London. He was ordained deacon on May 1, 1986 and priest on December 17, 1986 and served two years as Assistant Curate at Church of St. John the Evangelist, London, Ontario, with particular responsibility for youth ministry.

On November 8, 2014, was ordained and consecrated as the Eighth Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina. Bishop Skirving is married to Sandy, a registered nurse. Together, they have two grown children.

Huron University College Communications and Marketing