

The Rev. Nigel J. Taber-Hamilton has served as rector and senior pastor of our parish since October of 2000, and is only the second priest to serve as St. Augustine's rector. Nigel, who came to Whidbey Island from Bloomington, IN. after 19 years in the diocese of Indianapolis, follows the 29 year tenure of much-loved Rector Emeritus Fr. Bill Burnett.

Nigel served several congregations in central and southern Indiana, coming to us from All Saints' Episcopal Church in Seymour. However, he grew up in London, England. Nigel holds a combined honors degree (MCL) from the University of Wales, Bangor, in Biblical Studies and Religious History, a second bachelor's degree from the University of Birmingham, England, as well as his M. Div. from his English Seminary, Queens College, also in Birmingham.

Nigel first came to this country in 1977 as a World Council of Churches Ecumenical Fellow based at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA., a consortium of nine Protestant and Roman Catholic seminaries. In addition to his role as an Ecumenical Fellow Nigel studied at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, our west coast Episcopal seminary in the GTU, graduating in 1978.

Nigel is currently finishing a Doctor of Ministry degree, jointly awarded by Seattle University (Jesuit) and San Francisco Theological Seminary (Presbyterian) – the combination of “Catholic” and “Reformed” mirroring our common Anglican heritage.

Nigel has enjoyed a variety of hobbies, including reading, photography, small scale construction (he's built garages, for instance) and is an all-round handy person. Until recently he ran about 3 miles a day (and he says that the absence of that running – due to an Achilles tendon problem – has cost him “about 10 pounds”!

Nigel's wife, Rachel K. Taber-Hamilton, is also a priest, and rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Everett WA. They share their home with two snow-shoe Siamese cats, Devon and Samantha.