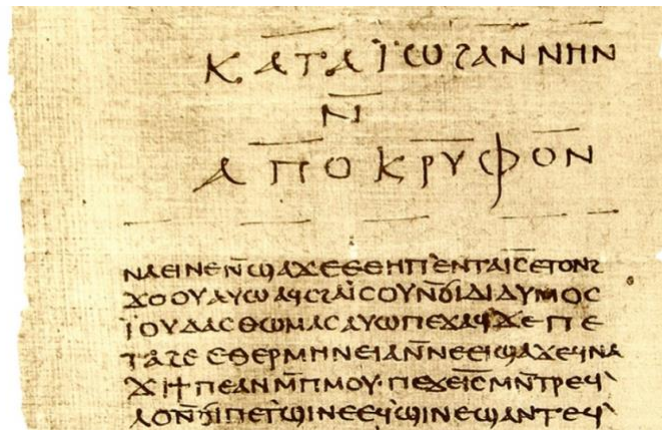


# The Gnostic Gospels

Wednesday April 10th at 6:30 pm  
Historic Rectory



This week's Lenten Midweek Discussion will be led by Mr. Peter Batty who will speak on the Gnostic Gospels: Thirteen leather bound papyrus codices buried in a sealed jar found by a farmer in Upper Egypt in 1945.<sup>[1]</sup> The writings in these codices comprise 52 mostly Gnostic treatises, but they also include three works belonging to the Corpus Hermeticum and a partial translation/alteration of Plato's Republic. In his introduction to *The Nag Hammadi Library in English*, James Robinson suggests that these codices may have belonged to a nearby Pachomian monastery and were buried after Saint Athanasius condemned the use of non-canonical books in his Festal Letter of 367 A.D. The discovery of these texts significantly influenced modern scholarship's pursuit and knowledge of early Christianity and Gnosticism.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Batty has served as a Permanent Deacon to the Archdiocese of Miami and at St. Mary's Star of the Sea in Key West. He is Chairman of

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<sup>1</sup> Summary from Wikipedia

the Utility Board of the City of Key West and has been its Director since 2005. Mr. Batty served as Vice President of the Wesley House Family Services Board of Directors. He also serves as a Board Member of the Star of the Sea Foundation. He served as a Member of the Florida Keys Community College Board and is a Florida Licensed Real Estate Broker and Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit and Family Mediator. Mr. Batty has Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University and Masters degree from St. Thomas University. Please come out for what promises to be a fascinating evening.