

FORWARD

I Thank God is written in dedication to Father Charles Kelly. The work is a setting of the poem *Common Senses* by Chrissy Greenslade and is scored for choir, harp, and strings. I chose this poem for its beauty and simplicity, translating these qualities into musical terms. For this reason the work is more accessible to church choirs, and more functional for those whom Father Kelly served and blessed. To complete the dedication, I set the syllables of Father Kelly's title and name in Latin, which appears in the bass line at the close of the work, *Pater Carolus*.