every one of us, *except ye repent, ye ſhall all likewiſe periſh*; as lately did great Numbers at *Marſeilles*, and the Countries near it. Thus was it the Buſineſs of the Apoſtles alſo, *to go and preach that Men ſhould repent*; and accordingly they did ſo, and ſeconded their Bleſſed Maſter, in preaching the Goſpel to the unconverted, and calling Sinners to Repentance: ſaying, *Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your Sins may be done away; draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you; cleanſe thereſore your ſelves, ye Sinners, and purify your Hearts, ye double-minded.* Agreeable to which is the pious Deſign of this Day's Solemnity: that we may humble our ſelves by *Faſting and Prayer*, and that ſo, upon our true Repentance, God may not *ceaſe to be gracious to us*; particularly, that he *would not viſit us, with the dreadful Calamity of the Plague, with which ſome Countries beyond the Seas, have been for ſome Time, and are ſtill grievouſly afflicted.*

Which minds me, Thirdly, To incite and move you further to thoſe Duties, in View of the Diſaſters, which others have now lately ſuffered, and which we alſo have great Reaſon to dread; or that we ſhall likewiſe *periſh*, as they have done, *except* we *repent, and ſo avert God's Anger.* To this