BAYOU GOULA, La.—The tiny Chapel of the Madonna near here, which is used only once a year for the celebration of Mass, was the scene of a Mass Saturday at 5 p.m.

The Rev. George Barbier, pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in White Castle, was celebrant of the Mass on Saturday, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The chapel is reputed to be the smallest Catholic chapel in the United States. It holds only the priest and two altar boys. The congregation gathered outside the small building.

For the past 61 years Mass has been celebrated here. The chapel is the second of two structures. The original building was replaced by the present one of the same size in a 1928 Mississippi River Levee setback.

Mrs. Frank Zito is custodian of the chapel, which was established in 1902 in fulfillment of a pledge for a recovery from illness.