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Catholic Convention in Berlin

The 78th Catholic Convention was attended by more than 100.000 faithful from East and West. The Convention took place in both parts of the divided former German capital.

Opening night in the Werner Seelenbinder Hall, where a few weeks ago the East German communists staged their atheist party convention.

The Church - it was said - could not offer a political solution for the German reunification.

One of the major events was the open-air mass in front of the St. Hedwig's Cathedral. Destroyed 1945 by bombs - the Catholic center of Berlin has not yet been restored.

The closing ceremony in the Olympic Stadium was attended by at least 170.000 believers. It was one of the outstanding events in the history of the Catholic Church.