THE MIRACLE

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OVER BLACK

HEAVY BREATHING. FOOTSTEPS echo inside --

INT. CATHOLIC CHURCH - NIGHT

THOMAS (7) sprints down the aisles, frantic. Ahead of him, kneeling at the altar is FATHER BRYANT (50s) in the middle of prayer.

THOMAS

Father! It's a miracle!

Father Bryant turns. Thomas pants, breathless.

FATHER BRYANT

What are you talking about my child-

Thomas has already taken off back in the direction he came.

THOMAS

The Santa Maria, Father! It weeps!

Father Bryant gets to his feet and follows behind the boy.

Thomas runs through a set of heavy doors and pivots left before they SLAM shut behind him.

Father Bryant shoves the doors open, swiftly following close behind the boy into the --

CHURCH FOYER

He sidles next to Thomas who gawks, pointing.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Look!

Father Bryant follows Thomas' gaze.

FATHER BRYANT

Dios mio...

A STATUE OF SAINT MARIA. Blood crawls down her cheek. Another drop falls to her cheek, but not from her eyes -- higher --

Father Bryant's head tilts toward the ceiling, confused. His confusion turns to horror.

Swinging above him from the rafters is a MAN's BODY. Blood drips from the slit on his wrist and falls toward the Statue.

CUT TO BLACK: