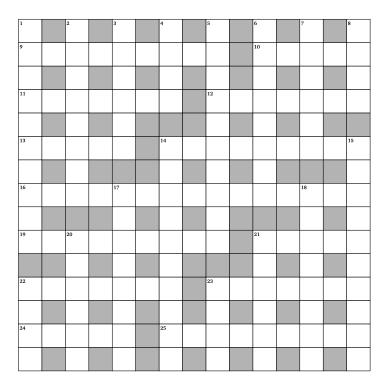
Cryptic Crossword

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Number 3 by Numpty

Across:

- 9. Leave the best for the end of excursion in Princess's area of France (9)
- 10. River of myrrh on Epiphany (5)
- 11. Alternatively, Dante is confused (7)
- 12. Overflowing lavatory covered up by FBI agent hiding diamond (7)
- **13.** Sharp characters following model are made into fools (5)
- **14.** It's a model cheese party, suprisingly, but for starters of stilton and emmental (9)
- 16. Focuses too narrowly on Eliza's spice mix (15)
- 19. Mourning Ringo's upset about disagreement (9)
- 21. Language of a party without extremes (5)
- 22. Occupied Pope led distractedly
- 23. A network, with another backing up, never dies (7)
- 24. Small note at the end of letter produces sobs (5)
- 25. A recipient of a frock, wearing a flower (9)

Down:

- 1. Changes with a theme, perhaps? (10)
- 2. Hussein's new organization produces light (8)
- 3. Mum's missing Mark, and the rest of them (6)
- 4. Charity starts to move in new direction (4)
- 5. Improving by leaving for another country not Germany (10)
- 6. Tree-dwelling woman climbs over hole (8)
- 7. Director's out of ideas, losing heart (6)
- 8. Top toilet (4)
- 14. Native American distressed Marianne, hiding Princess (10)
- **15.** Protected from drug's lethal dose by journalist after silence in the middle of Benin (10)
- 17. S.O.S. spelt badly made flawless (8)
- 18. Eccentricity in map going back to headland (8)
- 20. Untangle rope, reverse course and launch again (6)
- 21. He half-conceded and is paid attention to (6)
- 22. Father initially would not pledge (4)
- 23. Exaggerated dynamism hides disturbance (4)