12.3

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Across

- Historic instance of reluctance, refusal or failure to speak out on significant matters (Pius XII in WW2, DNC on moral character of 2020 nominee, God in Ingmar Bergman movies etc.)
- 6 American epidemic
- 11 Lovely European girls' name (Herzigová, Mattes, Braun etc.)
- 12 Essendon Airport (initials)
- 13 Seminal text of Jewish mysticism written by Moses de León in 13th century Spain whilst purporting to be the work of Rashbi from 2nd century ("Best of gentiles kill him, best of snakes cut its head etc.") redacting oral revelation to Moses on Sinai
- 14 Character played memorably by Bengt Ekerot and Brad Pitt
- 16 Character in gloomy Samuel Beckett play portrayed as unable to stand or see
- 17 Character in *Winnie-the-Pooh* known for gloomy outlook
- 19 Non-binary alternative to his/her used to avoid offense to Gen-snowflake

- 20 Discontinue, cancel, chop
- 22 New Jamie Oliver bestseller
- 23 Japanese K-Pop star from girl group Twice known for energetic and cheerful personality and outcry over insensitive remarks honouring Emperor Akihito (on abdication in 2017) regarded as offensive in Korea due to role of Chrysanthemum Throne in period of inhuman Japanese rule of peninsula from 1910 to 1945 (Like Ooh-Ahh etc.)
- 24 Disgraced Melbourne clown
- 25 Grassby, Bundy, Jardine, Capp, Gore, Weird
- 27 Seminal John Wayne character (not Tom Doniphon, Ethan Edwards, Genghis Khan or Longinus)
- 28 Doc Neeson interview (initials)
- **29** Greatly loved US artist (1942-95) known for lulling manner, kindness and fro (initials)
- **30** Greatly loved English author (*James and the Giant Peach* etc.) (with first initial) (1, 4)
- 31 Tragic character played by Richard Davalos in 1955 East of Eden with chilling final scene on train depicting descent into madness (initials)

12.3 (contd.)

Across (contd.)

- 32 The bodily rising to Heaven of Jesus forty days after the Resurrection often depicted as sandaled feet (with stigmata) disappearing from view at top of picture
- 36 1,011 (in Roman numerals)
- 37 New Testament *or* Nigel Tufnell (initials)
- **38** Acronym indicating indebtedness (1, 1, 1)
- 39 Fictional beer from Springfield
- 41 Large, hairy spider thought in earlier times to induce frenzied, bacchanalian dancing in those bitten
- 44 Grand Inquisitor (initials)
- 45 Pioneering Australian editor known for male centrefold and sealed section (first name)
- **46** *California Saga: Big* ... Mike Love paean to beautiful, rocky, coastal region of California
- 47 Narrow strait between Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman in territorial waters of Iran (regarded a significant naval "choke point") open to all in accordance with UN Convention on the Law of the Sea subject to exceptions defined in Article XIX regarding "innocent passage"
- 49 Versatile US movie actor known for roles as tragic army private Angelo Maggio, troubled Korean war vet Major Bennett Marco, junkie Frankie Machine, heel Joey and hipster Robbo in Robin and the Seven Hoods
- 51 Fearsome Hindu goddess typically depicted naked, blue, with lolling tongue, garland of skulls, skirt of body parts and standing on outstretched body of consort Shiva (embraced by radical feminism in West in 70s)
- 52 The Others (initials)
- 53 Tiresome US film making siblings
- 54 Netanyahu arraignment (initials)
- 56 Metal container (Fancy Feast, Agent Orange etc.)
- 57 Greatly loved entertainer from Long Beach, CA (5, 5, 4)

Down

- Members of conservative Catholic conclave denying legitimacy of popes since Pius XII regarding them as heretics due to embrace of modernism and the papal seat, resultantly, "vacant" since 1958 (Earl Pulvermacher, Hutton Gibson etc.)
- 2 Toto album with Africa
- 3 Clandestine identity of US Senator for South Carolina Lindsay Graham (allegedly used in seedy private life online) (4, 1)

- Approaches, draws close to, approximates
- 5 National treasure (not Nic)
- **6** Effusive display of admiration (6, 3, 5)
- 7 Villain of Passover punished in genocidal vengeance by as yet unnamed Hebrew god
- 8 Peculiar name by which unnamed Hebrew god initially identifies himself to Moses on Mount Sinai (after blood-curdling punishment of 7 down) (also civilian population) (1, 2)
- 9 Supreme creator deity of Zoroastrianism (AKA Ahura Mazda)
- 10 Activity or attitude designated anti-Semitic in IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism (along with questioning historicity, scope or significance of Holocaust, repeating canards of dual loyalty, media ownership etc., likening Israel to Nazi Germany or Apartheid South Africa and Temple location denialism)
- 15 Endless occupation (initials)
- 18 Slimy fish in Thames enjoyed by English
- 19 Arresting Russell Crowe role (not Maximus Decimus Meridius, Inspector Javert, Jor-EL, Kenny Larkin or Noah)
- 21 Lethal benzodiazepine in Billie Eilish song
- 23 Futuristic virtual assistant with soothing voice
- 26 Golden-haired goddess of youth, love and beauty promised by Wotan to giants Fasolt and Fafner as payment for building Valhalla in *Der Ring des Nibelungen* by Wagner
- 29 Initials designating time period prior to 1 CE (increasingly eschewed to avoid offense to non-Christian community)
- 33 A place where one stops in a succession of similar places (Jesus falls the third time, Nunawading etc.)
- 34 Without interruption
- 35 Sewn up (surgically)
- 36 Initials shared by celebrated authors of disparate texts *The History of Sexuality* and *Lord of the Dance*
- 40 Controversial 70s TV crow call
- 42 Awe-inspiring 1985 Kurosawa retelling of King Lear story set in 16th century Japan
- 43 Latin prefix meaning heavens
- 44 Brutal Soviet-era prison camp for dissidents
- 48 El ... Mexican-inspired McDonald's range
- A cultic offering (initials)
- 5 Initials shared by greatly loved Australia rock guitar legend and blind, paraplegic spiritual leader of Hamas may the souls of the martyrs rest in perfect peace

22 June 2020