

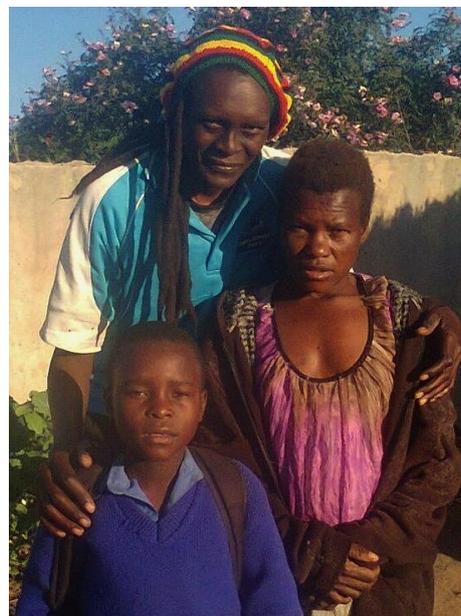
# St Andrew's URC ArtPeace Initiative

**ARTPEACE'S** struggle continues unabated. Zimbabwe is now the second poorest country in the world. All the artists are months behind with their rent. Coster Balakasi has been forced to move from his modest home to a displacement camp at Caledonia Farm to join other artists. His new residence is the shed below which we would use to store garden

tools or a bicycle. However, this is home to Coster, his wife Emma and Alabu (bottom right). Progress, the other daughter has to live with relations. There are no facilities and



Coster said he solved the problem of finding a source of clean water by making a diviner using a Coca Cola bottle full of water. It did the trick and he struck water!



He spent many hours digging the simple well (above) to provide water for his family. Far left: Alabu does her homework by candlelight. Photo below taken a week ago, gives some idea of the Balakasi's spartan new neighbourhood



**INCREASE:** The number of Artpeace friends desperate to sell their work through our project is increasing. The superb penguins below (not painted) kindly taken over by Fr Paul Edwards S.J. were made by Brighton an experienced artist using stone, ebony for wings with metal webbed feet, a clever technique and to my knowledge unique. Some penguins can be seen perched in the display cabinet along with the stunning Angel (below right) at Southwark Cathedral's shop. Dean Andrew Nunn is also considering using Luke Jimu's Nativity set as a design for this year's Christmas card.



Around a dozen or so Nativity sets made by Luke are currently on the way and will be available for Christmas. Our link with CAFOD in Harare continues to blossom. Thanks to their efforts ably assisted by Fr Koni and Fr Ashley, we have a reasonably steady flow of pieces although there can be a dearth of travellers at times.

Mobile phones continue to be a big problem as many new artists are without. Victor, whose verdite elephants are a delight, was forced to sell his mobile to help pay for his son's funeral. When times are hard, phones are usually the first to go but without them, communications are painful as many live in semi rural areas. All our artists are grateful for the continued support from UK churches.

**Johnston Simpson**