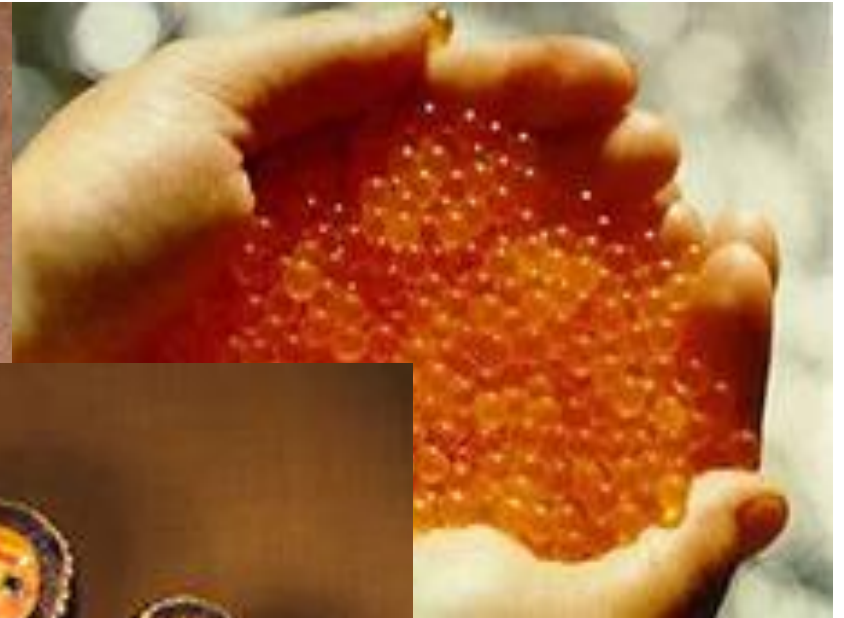


# *Russian icons*



# Maslenitsa



- Russian Maslenitsa festival connected with the end of winter and beginning of spring. Maslenitsa gets its name from the fact that in the last week before the Lent permitted the eating of butter, dairy products, meat and fish. Date of start Maslenitsa each year change, but take place at the end of February.

# Symbols of Maslenitsa



- The main symbols of Maslenitsa in Russia are pancakes, fun and Maslenitsa scarecrow. Ritual of burning Maslenitsa scarecrow is the main event in this festival. Another important symbol of Maslenitsa - pancakes. They were a symbol of the sun and the coming of spring. This holiday is still a favorite in Russia for its noisy festivities and fun.

# Valenki



- Valenki - warm felt boots woolly fleece, made more solid, but there are also soft. Valenki - a traditional shoe of peoples of Eurasia, which is used for walking on dry snow. Traditionally, valenki are brown, black, gray, and white. In Russia, valenki are widespread only in the first half of the XIX century. Valenki have become less popular in recent decades, replaced by a lighter shoe. Valenki associated with traditional country style clothes and the old way of life of Russia.