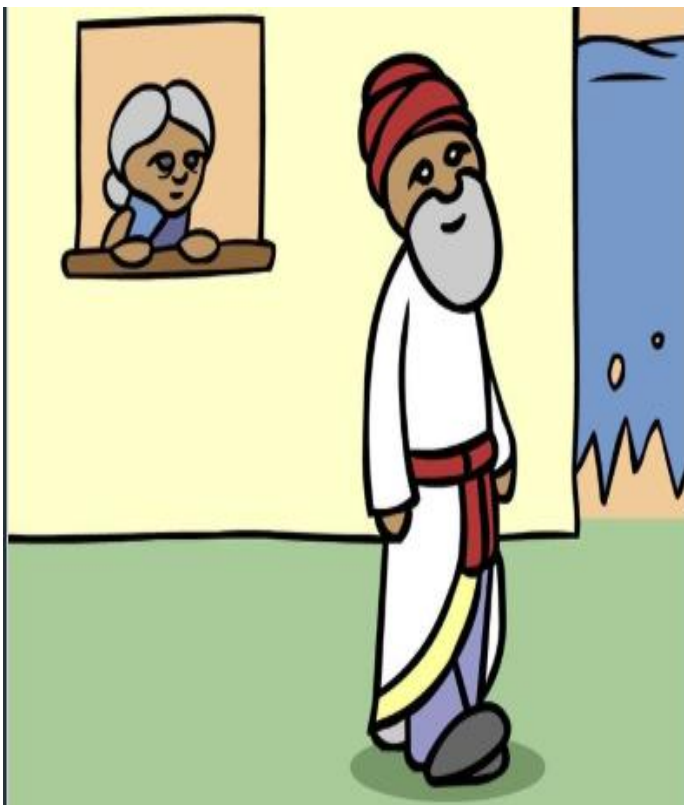


RE 18.5.20

Read the story of 'The Holy Cakes'. Talk about how the characters feel and why.



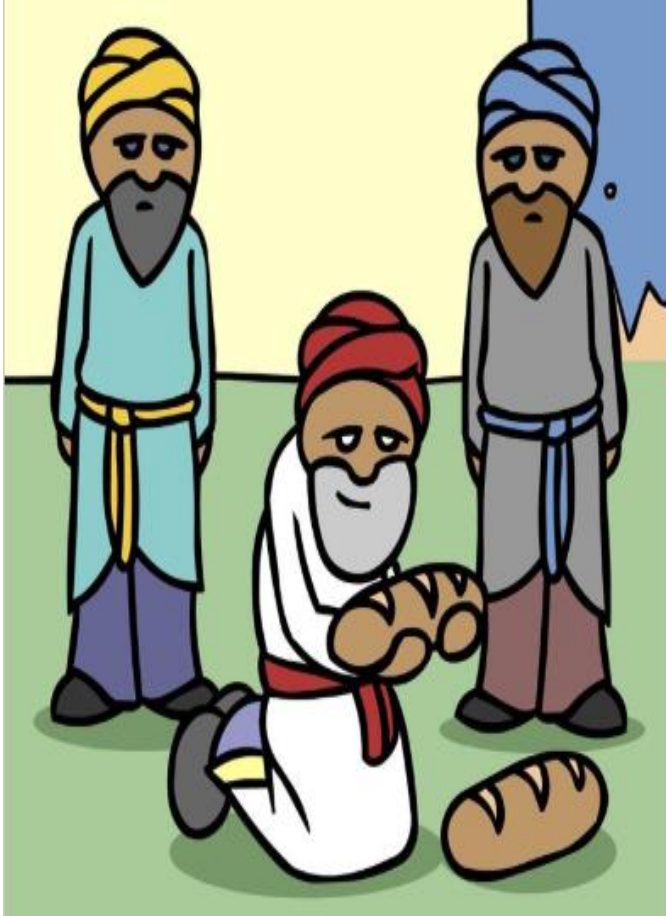
In a small village there lived an old woman who prayed every day. She made her living by spinning. The money she made was just enough to buy flour and make bread.



Every day Guru Hai Rai went for a walk, and passed through the village. And every day the old woman would watch him from her window. 'I hope that one day the Guru will eat bread made by my hands', she prayed.



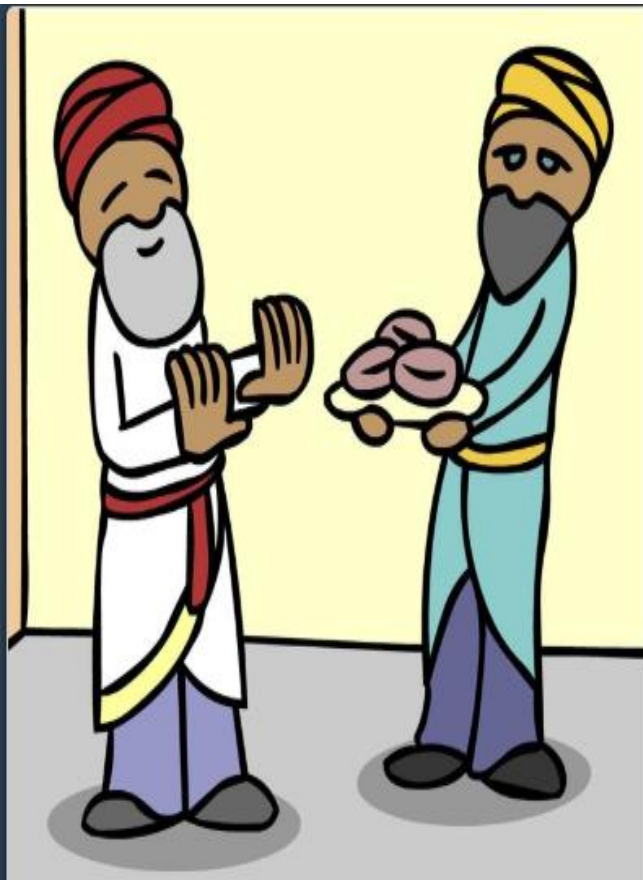
One day, the old woman made two loaves of bread and took them to the path where the Guru passed on his daily walk. Then she prayed for the Guru to walk past.



She waited and waited. Then just as she had almost given up hope, the Guru arrived with his friends. He was very hungry. When the old woman offered the Guru the bread, he picked up the loaves from the path without washing his hands and ate them. His friends were horrified!



'This is the best bread I have ever tasted!' the Guru said. Then he blessed the old woman, and continued on his walk. 'Why did you eat such simple food from a stranger without even washing your hands?' the Guru's friends asked. But the Guru did not reply.



When they arrived back at his house, the Guru's friends prepared sweet cakes with very expensive ingredients. But the Guru refused to eat them. 'This is expensive and rich food. I preferred the simple bread I ate from the old woman's hands. It was pure and delicious, because she made that bread with faith and love.'