

## A Day for Smiths

It almost slipped by unnoticed, but Saturday, January 6, was National Smith Day. What's that, you say? Well, it's a special day to commemorate the most common surname in English-speaking countries. This date is appropriate because it is the baptism date of one of the earliest Smiths in America, Captain John Smith, who led the group of English colonists settling in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607.

Today, there are more than 2½ million Smiths in the United States. National Smith Day salutes individuals, organizations and businesses that bear the name *Smith* or some variation, such as *Goldsmith*, *Arrowsmith* and *Coopersmith*.

That is a whole lot of Smiths! Sometimes, it is easy to feel lost in the crowd, just an ordinary face in a multitude of human beings. We may feel as if we're nothing special to anyone, including the One Who created us along with billions of others. Be assured, however, that God knows each one of us individually and so intimately that He can tell the very number of hairs on our head. To Him, each person on earth is precious enough to die for, and He longs to have a close relationship with us.

Even if we're in a crowd of people with the same name, to our Father we are unique. The Creator of the universe has chosen us and called us by name to be His adopted children. What a precious privilege that is! He is constantly aware of our thoughts, feelings and needs. He always knows the details of the circumstances in our lives. We may sometimes see ourselves as just another face in the crowd, but since He has called us by *our* name, we are now called by *His* name – and that's the greatest name anyone could ever have.

--Beecher Hunter