

your payment. Clergy do not work for profit; however, they offer a professional service and deserve fair compensation.

Same sex couples will encounter additional challenges to celebrating their union. While many Pagan officiants willingly accept same sex marriage partners, only two states, Vermont and Hawaii, legally recognize these unions. Not all couples can afford to go all the way to these states, and even if they do their

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own states may refuse to acknowledge the arrangement. Such couples, while asking the same questions as any other life partners, might also wish to explore additional legal avenues for ensuring they get the protections provided legally through marriage.

Ultimately, the best person to officiate at your wedding is the person you and your partner feel most comfortable with. A good clergyperson respects the beliefs of the couple and helps the partners evaluate their readiness for marriage. He or she may also offer skills in designing an appropriate handfasting ritual and explaining the meaning of the symbols used in the ceremony. Any couple in search of Pagan clergy for their wedding will be most successful if they are very clear about what they want and what they expect from their clergy. Always remember to allow plenty of time before the wedding so everyone involved can make any necessary adjustments.